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PERFECT INVASION WEATHER

Guardians Of British Coast Doubled In Dover Area

CRIME WILL OUT?

A suspicion that the enemy may have manufactured "evidence" to suggest that R.A.F. planes bombard Swiss territory was voiced in authoritative quarters in London yesterday.

A Swiss General Staff communique stated that foreign planes flew over Swiss territory on Christmas Eve and authoritative quarters in London now point out it has been officially announced that no R.A.F. operations were carried out over Europe on the nights of December 24 and 25.

The same quarters observe that the Swiss communique confirms suspicions that earlier reports of the bombing of Swiss territory by the R.A.F. may have been based on evidence manufactured by the enemy. — *Reuter*.

Picked Troops Comb The Beaches

PERFECT "INVASION WEATHER" OCCURRED IN THE STRAITS OF DOVER DURING CHRISTMAS, AND THE HEAVILY ARMED GUARDS WERE DOUBLED AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY OF A LIGHTNING GERMAN THRUST THROUGH THE BLANKET OF MIST COVERING THE CALM SEA.

Picked troops combed the beaches while the crews of long-range guns were ready for instant action and ships of the Dover Patrol slid through the mist keeping their day and night watch.

Meanwhile behind its ramparts Dover enjoyed a peaceful holiday. Shops were as crowded as in peacetime, a music hall and several cinemas were open and public dances continued until midnight.

Britain stood on guard against invasion throughout Christmas-tide.

While the unofficial air war "truce" was on, vigilance on the Channel coast was redoubled.

Workers Keep At It

Arms workers sacrificed their holiday to ensure a continued steady stream of munitions, and yesterday also war factories were running at full speed and millions of factory workers and others in offices and public services were working for the first time on Boxing Day since the passing of the Bank Holidays Act in 1871. — *Reuter*.

Nazi Threat Of "New Blow"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

German quarters in Berlin yesterday strongly hinted that a new and more powerful blow than any yet struck would be dealt at Britain immediately after the "Christmas truce."

The Nazi authorities, claiming that Germany proposed a three-day Christmas armistice, said Germany notified Washington of the truce proposal and asked that it be relayed to London.

The Nazi proposal, it was stated, was that no Nazi planes would bomb Britain provided no R.A.F. craft attacked the Reich or German-occupied areas.

So far there has been no violation of the tacit truce on either side but the German authorities said swift retaliation would follow any R.A.F. raid. — *International News Service*.

British victory, but Egypt was continuing its defence preparations. Sirry Pasha said the Government's policy was based on fulfilment of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty and on defence of the country.

Egypt was loyally carrying out the treaty.

Result of the debate revealed general agreement with the speech from the Throne at the opening of the parliamentary session when Sabry Pasha (then Prime Minister) collapsed and died. — *Reuter*.

GREEKS ADVANCE 2 MILES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The Greeks celebrated Christmas by further advances in the southern coastal and central sectors in Albania.

An advance of two miles was made by the Greeks who are pushing the Italians back north of Chimara.

In the Tepelini sector several additional fortified positions have been occupied by the Greeks.

Meanwhile the Greek High Command announces a series of skirmishes in which both Italian soldiers and war equipment were seized. — *International News Service*.

and volunteers between the ages of 16 and 36, who will also be accepted for service.

The announcement says: "Belgian units are now being formed in England to fight side by side with the British and Allied armies."

"Belgians in countries not occupied by the German army are affected by this decree and should consult their nearest consul regarding their present military status." — *Reuter*.

BELGIAN CALL TO ARMS

A "call to arms" to all Belgians between the ages of 19 and 25 has been issued by the Belgian Consul-General in New York, M. Charles Halleart. It also includes reserve officers

Top news from the field of science this year was the brand new electric refrigerator for home use. Resulting from more than three years of rigid laboratory tests and experiments, the new refrigerator is "triple-acting" for new-perfect preservation of all types of food.

A product of the extensive laboratories maintained in Philadelphia, Pa., by the Philco Radio and Television Corp., the new device, while no larger than the ordinary present day refrigerator, embodies three types of food processes. Three compartments in the refrigerator maintain dry, all-year-round maintenance as but a second compartment designed for cooked meats, vegetables, retainable in original flavour. The third compartment is for frozen foods and desserts.

Besides the electric freezing unit which operates on a new, most economical and practical of all known refrigerants, the new refrigerator also has an aluminum Moist Cold Shelf. This addition is a brand new invention and solves from a process perfected by Philco technicians. When

dishes of food come in contact with the shelf, heat is quickly drawn out and the food is chilled almost immediately. Strangely, too, the more dishes placed on the shelf, the faster it works.

The new refrigerator operates by the controlled circulation of dehumidified air which eliminates completely usual refrigeration odours and assists in further preservation of foods with no mixing of odours. Another advance is the new two-door design. On the inside of the door shelves are held in place by a second door which prevents escape of cold air. Every time the refrigerator is opened.

The new refrigerator, according to Philco engineers, represents the most important step in food preservation since the development of the electric refrigerator itself.

Every model is within your reach, and the agents will be only too pleased to give you a demonstration without obligation. All you need to do is phone 37484 or 37417 (Hong Kong) or 56038 (Kowloon) or write for further information to the local agents Messrs. Gilman & Co., Ltd., 48, Des Voeux Road, C. Gloucester Arcade, or 132 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

DEFEAT OF AXIS AS AXIOM OF U.S. POLICY

MORE THAN 150 American citizens have urged President Roosevelt to "make it the settled policy of the United States to do everything that may be necessary to ensure the defeat of the Axis Powers." This was announced by the White House yesterday.

In a letter to the President the group, which includes editors, lawyers, educationalists, actors and religious and labour leaders, appeal for everything possible to be done to promote "resistance to the plausible but fatal arguments of appeasement."

Evidently to let President Roosevelt know what they consider a large section of the United States people would like to hear in his broadcast on Sunday, the letter continues:

"We ask you to tell us what we believe to be the truth—that the materials of war and the military, naval and air strength we now have, and the implements we can produce, are enough to make certain the defeat of the Axis powers, so long as Britain is on her feet and fighting; but that with Britain down, they are not enough, and may not in future be increased enough to hold the whole world at bay."

The signatories include Hamilton Fish (Republican Representative from New York), Henry Brackenridge (well-known New York lawyer), Douglas Fairbanks, Dwight Morrow, and Dorothy Thompson (the famous columnist). — *Reuter*.

EGYPTIANS DEBATE POLICY

The Egyptian Chamber of Deputies, after a three-day secret debate, by 122 to 88 yesterday passed a vote of confidence in the Government's foreign policy.

The Prime Minister, Sirry Pasha, winding up the debate, declared the danger to Egypt was remote after the British

Mr. Churchill Sure Of Himself, Of Cause and of Strength

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Sudan Front No Place For The Squeamish

Kassala Unsafe In Watches Of Night

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent in the Sudan).

BRITISH PATROLS IN THE KASSALA SECTOR OF THE 1,200-MILE SUDAN-ABYSSINIAN FRONT ARE BECOMING MORE ACTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE AND ALTHOUGH THIS RAILWAY TOWN, WHICH IS SITUATED INSIDE THE SUDAN 20 MILES FROM THE FRONTIER, IS HELD BY THE ENEMY, ITS STREETS HAVE BECOME DANGEROUS AT NIGHT FOR UNWARY ITALIAN TROOPS.

Men are found dead in lonely alleyways and at street corners in this once peaceful trading centre, and men lock their doors, fearful of soft-footed Sudanese troops who are repeatedly stealing into the town under cover of darkness, seizing an occasional prisoner, killing a dozing sentry or merely "borrowing" some cases of beer or chianti.

On one occasion Sudanese entered the town, arrested a notorious enemy native agent as he was lying asleep by his house and carried him back to the British lines.

YOUTHS IN OWN ARMY

Britain is to have a Youth Army. Young men who have volunteered to serve a year or more before their calling-up date are to serve in battalions formed entirely of lads of their own age.

Most of their N.C.O.s will be chosen from among them, and they will have to discipline themselves. Their junior officers will be little older, and their senior officers will be first-class men with up-to-date methods.

This change from what he referred to as "not a happy system," was disclosed by Mr. Anthony Eden at a National Defence luncheon in London.

These keen young men, Mr. Eden said, had till now been formed into young soldiers' companies of Home Defence battalions.

They had served under officers and men much older than themselves, and with other companies whose average age exceeded theirs by twenty years and more.

"Those who have served in the ranks of one of the young soldiers' units," he said, "and who have risen to non-commissioned rank in them through their own merit will be considered for vacancies in officer cadet training units."

Mr. Eden warned against the foolishness of supposing that with the winter the threat of invasion had passed. The contrary was the fact.

"There is no evidence," he said, "to show that Hitler has abandoned his declared intention to seek to subdue this country by invasion. There is plenty of evidence to cause us to be anxiously watchful during these next few weeks."

"Vigilance is as compelling a duty to-day as it has been at any time in the last three months," he added. "To watch and ward is our instruction — not to troops but to the whole of the nation. We are not to have a defensive line, but as an Army waiting to spring should the foe come within our grasp."

Mr. Eden said the country's

All along the border British patrols and small parties of the Sudan defence force are hustling the enemy back towards the frontier.

There has been a series of hide-and-seek ambushes among the enemy bushes and tall grass of the bush country.

Occasionally there is a larger operation when a mechanised patrol of the Sudan Defence Force waylays some Italian column which becomes too venturesome, but the British harrassing tactics, originally designed to contain the enemy forces, are now having the effect of slowly pushing the Italians back.

Italian Main Body

The main body of the Italian army is concentrated at Asmara and Agordat, in Eritrea, supporting Kassala, and in northern Abyssinia around Gondar and Lake Tana, supporting Galabat.

There are also large concentrations in the neighbourhood of Addis Ababa.

Cat-And-Mouse

The British and Imperial troops have now been reinforced and fully equipped and are lying in wait like a cat watching a mouse along the whole front, while the Italian hold on Abyssinia is also threatened by General Cunningham's forces on the Kenya border.

Inside Abyssinia itself the tribes are growing more restless.

The flame of revolt is being further fanned by the R.A.F. who are incessantly bombing Italian strongholds within sight of discontented tribesmen.—Reuter.

debt to the courage and inspiration of the Prime Minister was inexpressible and unimaginable.

"Nothing could have equalled his courage at the darkest hour," said Mr. Eden. "He is the true warrior, brave and fertile in expedients, ever cool and watchful."

Mr. Eden, referring to the equipment of the troops, said:

"The Royal Air Force, by its splendid gallantry, strikes the prelude for victory, but it is the Army that must deal the final blow. The Army must have its weapons and its training, above all, with mechanical weapons and the other material support that the air which is indispensable to the success in modern war."

DENY THEY CONSENTED TO MARRIAGE

A titled man who was stated to have lived for twenty years in an atmosphere of "extreme wealth," was referred to in a court action as a "shiftless youth who got worse," and as a "lucky man to get such a nice wife."

The man was Sir Victor Chetwynd, who died in 1938 at the age of thirty-four.

His widow, Lady Valian Betty Chetwynd, claimed in the Chancery Division a declaration that she was entitled to half the income for life from a fund under a voluntary settlement made by Mr. Jack Barnato Joel.

It was stated that Sir Victor's mother, Lady Rosalind Chetwynd, left all her property to Mr. J. B. Joel with a request that he should look after her son.

In consideration of that, Mr. J. B. Joel made a deed of voluntary settlement in favour of Sir Victor. The present trustees of the settlement were Mr. J. B. Joel and his son, Mr. Harry Joel.

A clause in the settlement stated that if Sir Victor died, having married with the consent of the trustees, half the income from the settlement should be paid to his widow.

Lady Chetwynd maintained the trustees had given their consent to the marriage, but the trustees denied it.

Mr. S. Cope Morgan, for Lady Chetwynd, said Sir Victor was born at the end of 1902 and, until his mother's death twenty years later, he lived in an atmosphere of extreme wealth. He married in January, 1929.

Lady Chetwynd, giving evidence, said she and her late husband had no knowledge of any formal consent to their marriage being required.

She came to London to introduce herself to "Uncle Jack" (Mr. J. B. Joel), who, she understood, was her husband's guardian. He was too ill to see her, but she saw Mr. Joel, jun., and gathered that his father was pleased with the marriage.

Mr. Harry Joel, in the witness-box, said his interview with Lady Chetwynd was friendly. The marriage was not discussed.

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Joel if he were a Christian or a Jew. Mr. Joel replied that he was a Jew.

"Why did you not put on your hat when you were sworn?" asked Mr. Morgan.

The Judge then ordered the witness to be re-sworn in Jewish fashion and to repeat his evidence.

Mr. Morgan: Are you prepared to accept that money at the expense of Lady Chetwynd?—Yes. I am not prepared to give my consent to the marriage.

Mr. William Page, a solicitor, said Lady Chetwynd told him in 1929 of her marriage.

He certainly did not congratulate Lady Chetwynd or express pleasure with the marriage.

"Had the character of the boy changed between the date of the settlement and the date of his marriage? Was he always a shiftless youth?" the Judge asked.

Mr. Page: Yes, he was always a shiftless youth, but he got worse.

Mr. Page said that, speaking generally, he thought Sir Victor was a very lucky man to get such a nice wife.

The hearing was adjourned.



Mothers and children from the L.C.C. areas and East and West Ham are still being evacuated to safe areas outside London. Photo shows an amusing study of a tiny tot examining the identification label of her companion. (Copyright, Fox).

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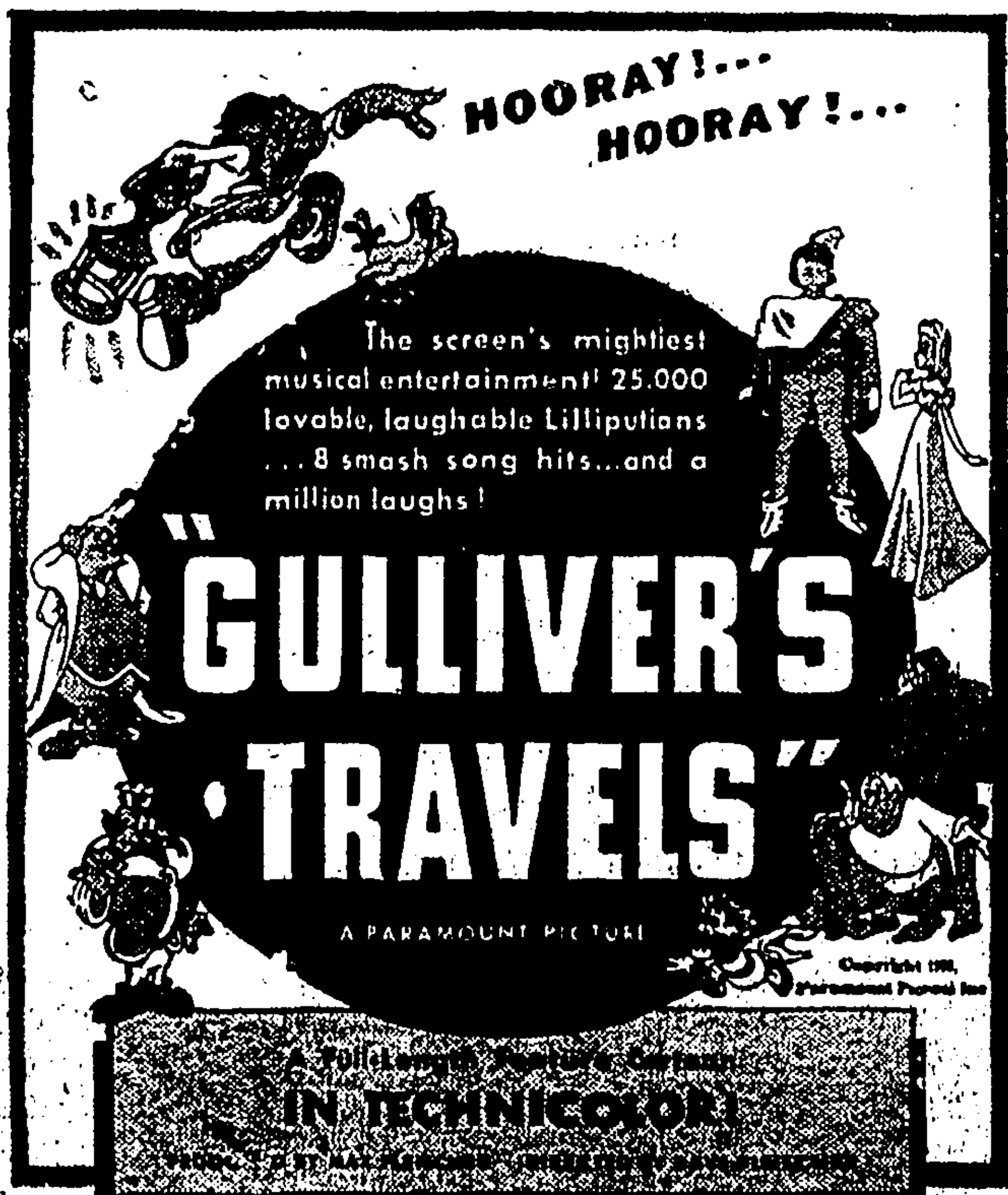
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NAZIS TRY PEACE PROPAGANDA FOR A X'MAS DIVERSION

IN BROADCASTS directed to Britain, the German Radio has been plugging away on the lines of "Why should Britain go on with the war?"

Several recent broadcasts directed at Britain have asserted that the British Government has had several opportunities of getting peace.

It is not supposed in London that the Germans really expect much to result from this "peace propaganda," especially when one takes into consideration the continual statements in German home broadcasts that the war will be a long one and that Britain is not easily overcome.

All this German radio and press campaign has given the lie to Marshal Brauchitsch's statement that "the English Channel protects Britain only so long as it suits Germany."

Thus, the "Berliner Borsen Zeitung" says that in achieving and undertaking a task of such magnitude "a few months more or less is of no importance."

There has been a lot of comment outside Germany in the contrast between these warnings to the German people and the suggestion to the British people that Britain should make peace.

Some commentators take it as a sign that Hitler is probably still hoping to get out of his present predicament by a peace offensive, the essence of which would be to eliminate British opposition while leaving him still in possession of the countries he has over-run in Europe. — Reuter.

PUBLIC OPINION

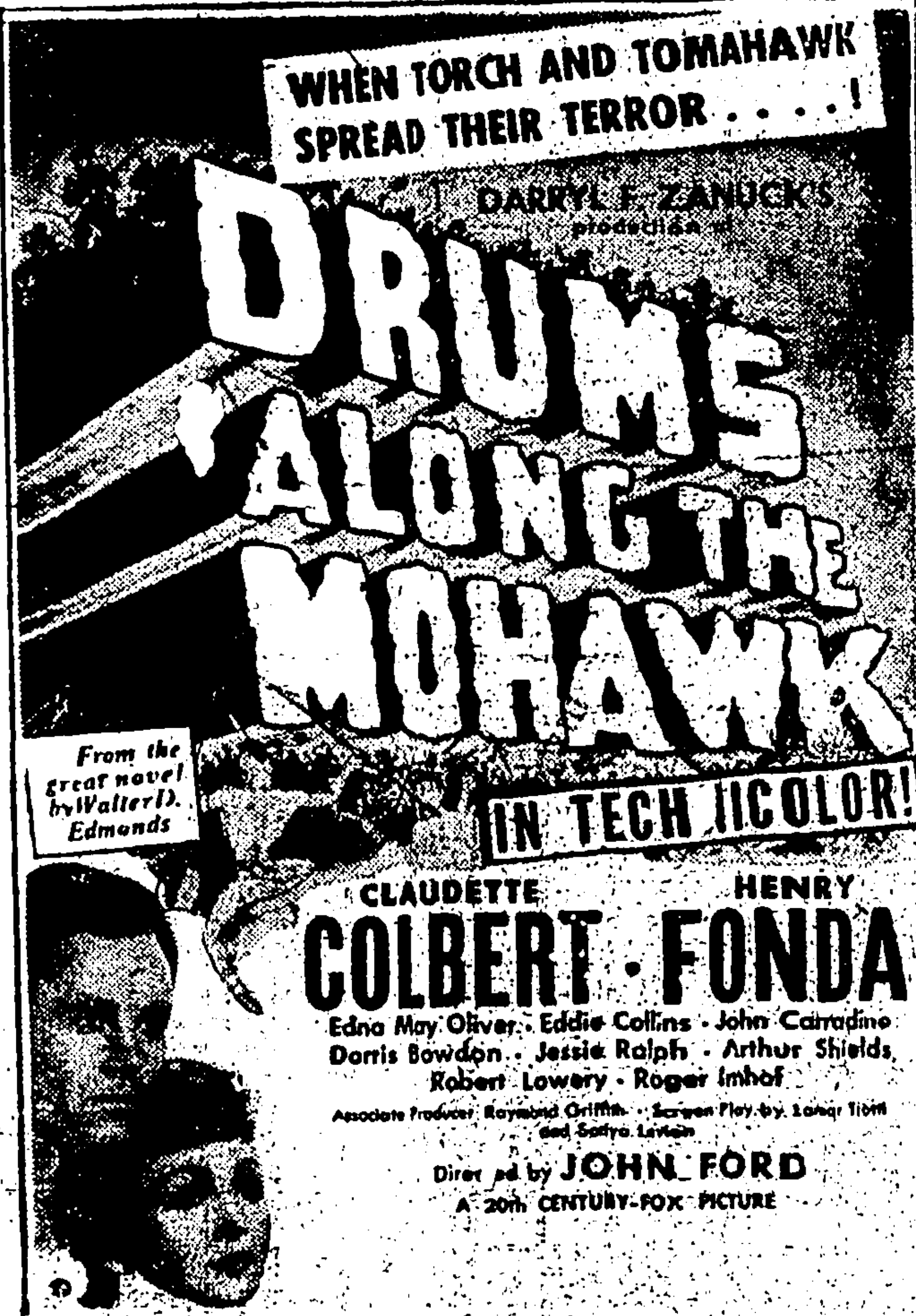
The announcement that the Vichy Government has decided to release French officers captured at Dakar has drawn from General de Gaulle the rejoinder that he welcomes the fact that French public opinion compelled the release of these officers and non-commissioned officers, whom until recently Vichy intended to bring before a court martial.

General de Gaulle added that it is, however, clearly understood that the step taken by Vichy will in no way modify the safety measure taken regarding certain generals and senior officers arrested by the Free French forces in the course of recent police operations in the Gabon. — Reuter.

MARQUIS, 61, TO WED AGAIN

The engagement was announced of the Marquis of Aberdeen and Mrs. Guy Innes, widow of Captain J. W. G. Innes. Lord Aberdeen is sixty-one. He was formerly married to Mrs. E. Cockayne, of Sheffield, who died in 1937.

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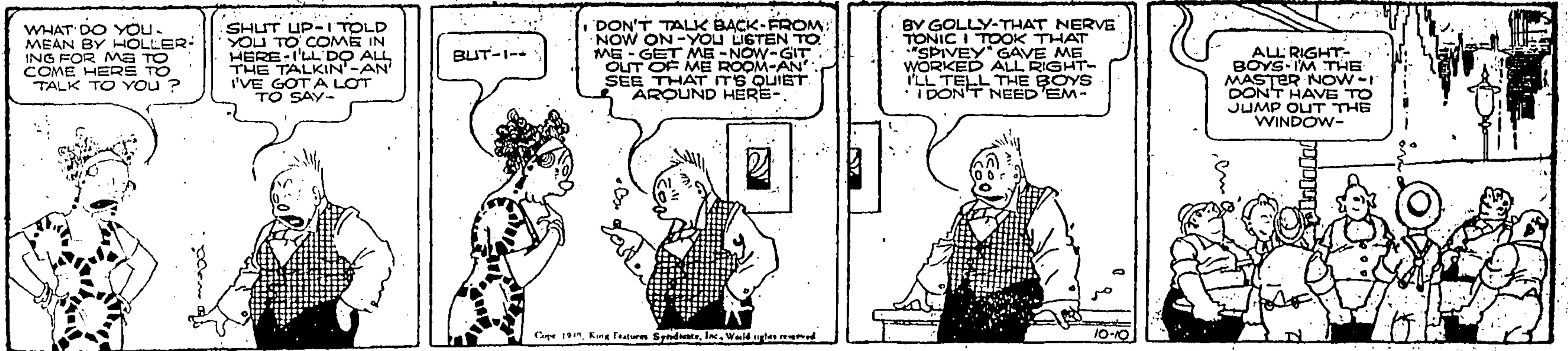
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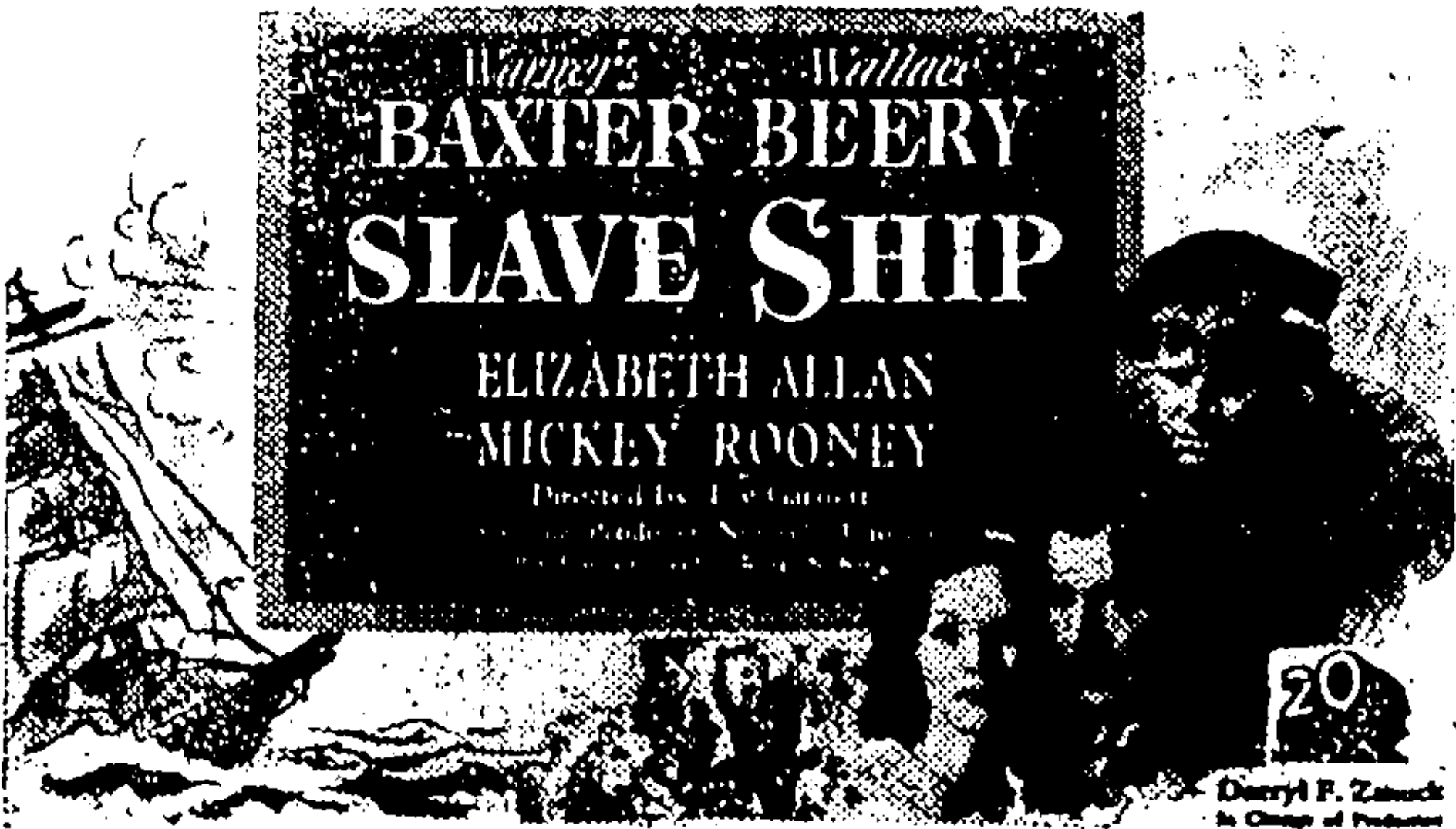


By George MacManus

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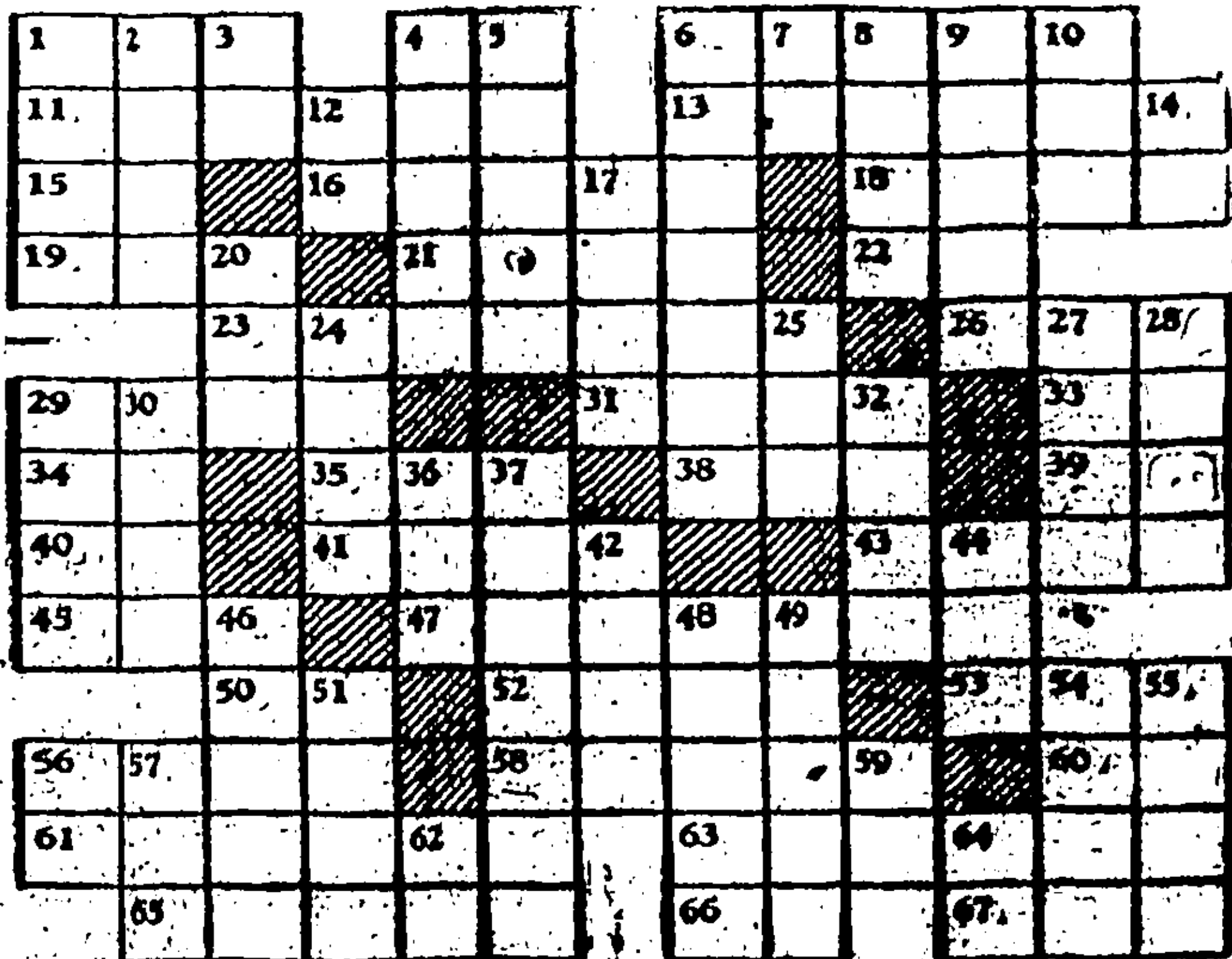
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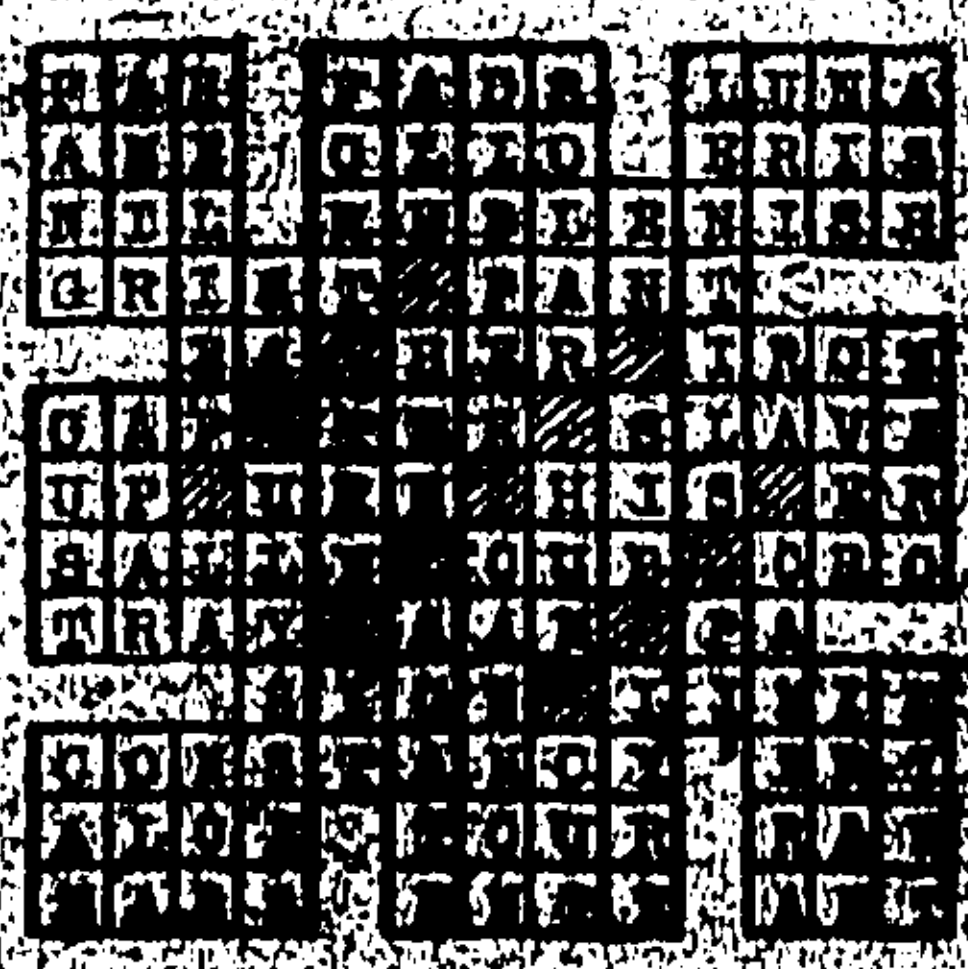
HORIZONTAL

- 1 Greek letter
- 4 While
- 6 Destroyed
- 11 Peruvian animal
- 13 Is available
- 15 Note of scale
- 16 Muffled
- 18 City in Nevada
- 19 Beverage
- 21 To become fatigued
- 22 Symbol for actinium
- 23 Stripped tho blubber from
- 25 Label
- 29 Stripped instrument
- 31 To give forth
- 33 See
- 34 King of Bashan
- 35 Worm
- 38 Nahoor, sheep
- 39 City in Chaldea
- 40 Indian mulberry
- 41 Chair
- 43 Fork-tailed gull
- 45 To colour
- 47 To forbear
- 50 Artificial language
- 52 Pool
- 53 Swimming

VERTICAL

- 1 Pastry
- 2 To the sheltered side
- 3 Preposition
- 4 Sharp
- 5 Silk cloth
- 6 Saves
- 7 Article
- 8 River in Russia
- 9 To build
- 10 Lair
- 12 Part of "to be"
- 14 Therefore
- 17 Gaelic
- 18 Aster
- 24 Drugs
- 25 Uproar
- 27 Astringent salt
- 28 To pierce
- 29 Stuck
- 30 Repulsive
- 31 Motor cab
- 32 Doan
- 33 Day of rest
- 34 Farmer
- 35 Christian ruler
- 36 Girl's name
- 37 House of poetry
- 38 Moment
- 39 Growth
- 40 German river
- 41 Part of the ore
- 42 Old Irish
- 43 Infantryman
- 44 Hypothetical
- 45 To seek
- 46 Compare point
- 47 Symbol for samarium
- 48 See

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



LUCKY FLIGHT

"Lucky B" flight of the R.A.F. Middle East Command met eighteen of the enemy one evening. There were six R.A.F. aircraft but the Italians lost four and possibly a fifth aircraft.

Next morning "Lucky B" was at it again, five of them meeting seven Italians, of whom five were shot down.

The British Flight Lieutenant, a Londoner, was disappointed in the evening flight. "We were chasing them all over the sky" he said. "There seemed to be clouds of them, but I simply could not get anything in range that night." "Whatever I approached just disappeared and I was left by myself. They just went off towards the ground, relying on their camouflage to get them away.

Next morning however this Flight Lieutenant was engaged against three of the enemy with nobody near them. One of the Italians was going up into the sun, a second was ahead and a third on the Flight Lieutenant's beam. The one ahead was sent spinning down into the sea by a burst going through his wing. The Flight Lieutenant put a burst through the tail of another of his adversaries and the Italian immediately fell spinning to the ground. The third disappeared apparently engaged by another British aircraft.

A visit to these R.A.F. pilots in their desert camp leaves one with the impression that they are supremely confident in their superiority over the enemy. Their one desire is to meet him on every possible occasion.

E. G. M. — NOT O. B. E.!

Among the awards gained recently by members of the W.A.A.F. are two which sometimes give rise to misunderstanding—the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for Gallantry, and the "medal of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service."

Both these awards are in the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire. But neither of them carry the title to the initials "O.B.E." or "M.B.E." These refer to the fourth and fifth classes of the Order, i.e. "Officers" and "Members" respectively, either civil or military.

Holders of the Empire Medal for Gallantry are entitled to place the letters "E.G.M." after their name; "on all occasions when the use of such letter is customary." The Meritorious Service Medal carries no such distinction.

Both the Gallantry and meritorious Service medals are of silver, and are worn on the left side, suspended from a clasp of rose pink ribbon edged with pearl grey and with a vertical pearl grey stripe in the centre.

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SUBTLE PARIS "RAGGING" OF NAZIS

(By A Diplomatic Correspondent)

RIDING ROUGHSHOD over the armistice provisions which give Germany only military rights in the territory left to the Vichy Government, the Germans are now pouring thousands of refugees from the Rhineland and Ruhr areas bombarded by the R.A.F. into the valley of the Rhone and other parts of Southern France, where the winter weather is comparatively mild.

Apart from the fact that these people pay a nominal sum for their lodging, there is no pretence of any friendly arrangement being made.

Orders are given to the local mayor, houses must be evacuated by the population within a brief space of time and domestic service provided, and school and other accommodation found.

These people, I learn from an informant who has recently been among them, are dejected, despite their pleasant surroundings. Letters from home speak of fresh damage done and even, in the case of certain districts, of demoralised populations living in the surrounding woods.

From a Paris source, I learn of a second category of refugees. These are Germans who make the British bombing an excuse for coming to France because they are tired of the Nazi regime and mean to settle down permanently on one pretext or another if the Gestapo allows them to do so.

They are therefore trying to establish business connections and to buy houses and other property—at prices which, in view of the artificial rate of exchange, are far below the real value.

An attempt was made a fortnight ago to buy big bank premises on the Champs Elysees, but the owner, a neutral, was able to stand out for payment in his own currency, which no German is allowed to possess.

The view that French morale is improving was confidently expressed to me. There is a feeling that the present situation is an artificial one which cannot last.

Hopes In Britain

Hopes are pinned mainly on the British, and Gen de Gaulle is popular, though not so popular as he would be had he been older and better known during the war in France. He is admired mainly as an intrepid leader and a man without a political record and with a soldier's mind.

The Parisians have now lost their fear, based mainly on a formidable appearance, of the German troops, and find them incredibly stupid and ingenuous.

By "ragging" them in ways too subtle for the German mind the population have done a good deal to undermine German morale. Thus Parisians will commiserate gently with them on their forthcoming trials "when the invasion starts," and say how much they will look back to their stay in France, "which is so peaceful."

A Contrast

The Germans, too, are nonplussed to find the French so comparatively happy and free to express their opinions. This they naturally contrast with the position in their own country, and often draw a moral highly unfavourable to the doctrines with which they have been imbued.

As each soldier draws 60 francs a day, about 6s 6d in purchasing value, they can afford what luxuries there are, and once again they regard France as a dream-land as compared with Germany.

The adventure against England is not a popular subject of conversation, for the French are not slow to point to British resistance so far, "with more and worse to come if you try to get there."

Circumstantial stories circulate among troops and Germans alike to the effect that two unsuccessful attempts at invasion have already been made, perhaps as a kind of rehearsal or as a strong test-run.

These people whisper to one another, ended in disaster because the German ships ran into a minefield, and before they could extricate themselves fast British motor-boats drew alongside and pumped petrol aboard and on the sea, and later set light to it.

The French hospitals are said to be full of the charred victims and also of German soldiers wounded in the Channel ports by British naval and air attacks.

Fears created by such stories are said to be leading to the continual necessity for superior officers to deny them and call the men to order and a martial bearing and "no fraternising." Hence, in public, the attitude of courtesy at first preserved has been dropped and German behaviour in France is now exactly what it was in Belgium during the last war.

Naturally, this is finding precisely the same reaction among the population, as various incidents reported in the last few days have shown.

Anger Intensified

Their anger is intensified by the fact that the Germans are coming to the industrial districts for specialist metal-workers, especially in the aeroplane branch. There are being sent, much against their will, to Germany, just as were the Poles and Czechoslovaks, who had no armistice to safeguard them, even in theory.

Industrial establishments are working short-time or are closed because the Germans have taken the machinery away. French aircraft factories are still turning out some engines, but no frames.

The Germans are trying to bribe demobilised French pilots to take over certain routine and training duties, with a view to releasing members of the Luftwaffe for combat activities. A bonus of 15,000 francs, or about £200, is offered, besides fairly good pay, but I am informed that, with very few exceptions, the offer has always been refused.

TOM MIX CUTS OUT 4 OF HIS WIVES

Tom Mix, the cowboy star of the silent films who was killed in a motor-car accident in Arizona left his "faithful horse and partner, Tony," to his lawyer, Ivon Parker, according to his will.

One rider to the will reads: "I don't desire any of my former wives or my said daughter Ruth Mix in anywise to participate in this will."

His estate is to be divided equally between the widow, Mabel, and one of his daughters, Thomasina Mix Matthews. Tom Mix was married five times.

NAZI PILOT KNEW THIS PUB

A lorry driver was taking a crashed German pilot into Newport, I.O.W., when his passenger said: "Will you pull up at the Blacksmith's Arms at the top of the hill? I could do with a drink."

Harold Blow, the lorry driver, told this story after he had picked up the pilot, a lieutenant, 6ft 2in tall, who had baled out.

"I asked him how he knew where he was, and he replied that he had often been to the island, and knew every inch of it," said Blow.

"He also said that he knew Southampton well, as he used to go there in liners before the war."

"I drove him to my home and gave him a dinner because he said he was very hungry. He thanked me for the food, and then I telephoned the police and the military came for him."



Some of the official guests at the inspection of Hong Kong's A.R.P. personnel at the Football Club ground.



GERMANY'S OIL SUPPLY

That warlike nations without an adequate supply of oil must base their strategy on its acquisition amounts to a truism and Germany, having failed to deliver a quick, knockout blow against Britain while her oil supplies were at their height, is now forced to turn her attention and energy towards ensuring an adequate and continuous flow of this essential commodity. German intrigue in Rumania, culminating in the submission of that country to Nazi rule, was largely undertaken for the purpose of obtaining the entire control of Rumania's 2,231 oil wells. These wells unfortunately from Hitler's point of view, do not completely fill the gap between supply and expenditure. This continued lack can give the key to the German Fuehrer's next step in his war campaign.

The only remaining source of supply which could reach Germany without the need of crossing large expanses of water lies in Iraq and Iran and it is not difficult to assume that Mussolini's African campaign was intended not only as a preliminary step towards the Suez Canal but also towards these much coveted wells. The conquest of Greece would have also simplified the Axis move eastward. Iran alone produces some 10 million tons a year while the Iraq wells are at present only limited by the carrying capacity of the pipe-line to the Mediterranean through Syria and Palestine which handles two million tons annually. Italy's failure to defeat either Greece or the Imperial Forces necessitates some action by Hitler. Whether he will give Italy the requisite aid or stage another direct attack on Britain remains to be seen but it is not surprising under the circumstances that German troops are reported to be massing near the Yugo-Slavian and Hungarian borders and that they are already in Italy.

Germany's oil needs are calculated by the Britannica Year Book to amount to around 13 million tons annually but some American military and economic experts place the amount as high as 25 to 37 million tons of oil a year to win the Axis war. The discrepancy between these two estimates is large and is an illustration of the difficulties experienced in assessing with some degree of accuracy the size and equipment of Hitler's army. It is, however, clear that his supply falls far short of his needs. These are now increased by Italy's requirements, not to mention these countries in East Europe which normally consumed 26 million tons annually. This latter figure will, of course, be ruthlessly cut down but nevertheless, if industry is not to collapse completely their oil reserves must be tapped, however reluctantly. The British Blockade prevents further importation.

To off-set these requirements Germany is said to have a reserve of 6 million tons to which approximately 3 million tons of synthetic and natural oil produced annually in the country can be added. The Rumanian output of roughly 9 million tons is now entirely in German control as well as any exports that Russia is willing to spare. This extent of the latter's help is, however, very problematical. According to a recent announcement by the Soviet Commissar of the Oil Industry, Russia's oil production though better than in 1939 "is not yet sufficient." Russia also needs oil in increasing quantities herself and it is known that her reserves are being jealously guarded. Germany's position, while not yet acute, is thus seen to be far from satisfactory and Hitler's most urgent need, if he hopes to win the war, is to procure a steady flow of this "liquid gold." But where? Perhaps it will be found that oil, or rather the lack of it, will be as great a determining factor as food and morale in the final outcome of the war.

One of the curses of the modern age is narrow nationalism. Countries tend to think in terms of self-sufficiency, of national aims that take no account of the well-being of mankind as a whole. The tendency has been growing for about three hundred years and now found its extreme expression in Nazi Germany.

To the Nazis, Germany is the beginning and the end of everything; nothing that is not German is worthy of consideration. To bolster up this recrudescence of primitive tribal prejudice, German science has been turned into a harlot. She is forced to prostitute her integrity, to repudiate the truths she has helped to reveal, in paying lip-service to the spurious theory of Blood and Race.

Now Morality herself, nothing if not universal, has been shown the door. Her spirit had long been exiled from Nazi Germany, but up to a late hour she was in theory countenanced if not revered. Now even that pretence is dropped. She is banished by official edict and a Gorgon with the face of hell, the new German Morality, desecrates her abandoned altar. "Good is what is good for Germany," proclaims that well-named Priest of Falsehood, Dr. Ley. "Bad is what does not suit Germany's end."

This is the guiding spirit of the hordes that have over-run the greater part of continental Europe, a Europe where once Erasmus wandered freely to spread his liberal doctrines, where Pascal, Diderot and Voltaire were once honoured from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and where students once journeyed from the Carpathians to Paris, from Brittany to Bonn, to imbibe the universal learning.

When this is what patriotism gone mad has brought about, I shall be understood when I say that I am not a patriot. But I have deeper reasons for knowing that even sane patriotism is "not enough." I do not believe that a man is necessarily a better man because he is an Englishman, an American, a Dutchman, a Chinese, or a Malay. I do not believe that any one country produces a constant standard of human beings, or can claim that its political system or method of life approaches perfection, that any one country can claim to impose its way of thought or its institutions on the rest of the world. We are under the moral obligation of taking the good where the good is to be found, irrespective of nation, and we are under the moral obligation of sharing those material resources of the world necessary to all nations, so that individual countries may enjoy their own method of life in prosperity and peace.

I firmly stand by the idea of universality. We must refuse to accept a man as a man or a woman as a woman by the mere fact that they carry a British passport. In the same way we should refuse to reject a man or a woman on the mere ground of their nationality. They must be judged in the light of universal values as men and women. These are the standards which I know decent Englishmen accept. Precautions in a war emergency are beside the point. It is only when fear or interest appeal to the tribal spirit latent in all of us that we are tempted to depart from them.

It is only the basest amongst us who would have us believe that mere nationality is enough. Our affection and our admiration must stand free to be claimed by those who merit it by the standards of humanity. We must be free to criticise the community to which we belong and to adopt what is found good from outside. Prejudices we have and cannot wholly escape from but they are no guide to judgment and, if we are to retain our integrity, they must be kept in their place.

This is the extent to which I am an internationalist. But I am aware that in the present state of the world's development we are far from the position when we can stand alone as individuals, as citizens of the world. As individuals we are feeble voices crying

in the wilderness. Mankind is by history and geography and other natural forces divided into units leading a corporate life. And just as cells must adhere to the body, to one of these organisms called nations we must belong. We must have a country to which we owe allegiance. Whether we like it or not we are units of some nation.

And, for better or for worse, I am an Englishman. And claiming my rights as an Englishman, I would ask you to bear with me while I give you my mere personal views as to where England stands to-day. And by you I mean not only the British overseas, but those who are local-born and yet share the British heritage and belong to the British tradition.

I find that there is much to lament in the state of modern England. We fought a grim war a quarter of a century ago for our survival and after the sacrifice of a million of our youth, this war we won. But we did not fully

(A talk by VICTOR PURCELL

broadcast from Singapore)

realise the responsibilities of our victory. We did not play the part we might have played in erecting a new international order. Other nations were indeed at fault but we fell back after too feeble a struggle on the old rough and ready idea of the balance of power. Nor did we recognise that the internal structure of England was full of timbers rotted by age and we were called upon by our sense of security, if nothing else, to rebuild our English social order. We relapsed too readily into the old game of party politics.

This was partly the result of our English tradition of compromise. We have always been opposed to violent change, and it has been our remarkable faculty to accept so much change as will avert revolution. This was our tolerance. But our tolerance, resistant at the same time to new ideas, has in some respects led us astray. We have been too much inclined to laissez faire. Thus we allowed the worst forces of the industrial revolution to range with little check over the fair face of England. I need refer only to the things that strike the eye. The slums of our great industrial cities do us no credit. Our tolerance of ribbon development—ugly tentacles of jerry-built hutchies unfit for man—has placed the ancient beauty of our countryside in jeopardy; our reluctance to plan has deprived our towns of unity. Where once was an approach to architectural form is now a jumble of pseudostyles. We have been content to become citizens of mean cities.

These are the more obvious signs of decline since the Great War. But the decline had started long before then. We can trace it with the English defection from the arts. There was a time when England was a musical country; it had its folk ballads, its madrigals and dances on the village green. There was a time when an Englishman who claimed to be educated had to be able to sing a catch or play an air on his flute or guitar. Pepys, that very typical Englishman and civil servant used, we may remember, to play the lute on the leads of his house in the cool of the evening. England in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had its schools of painting that were full of promise. There was a time when the Englishman did not despise literature and learning. If he canvassed his affections for the classics he would not be socially damned as "highbrow." It has been epigrammatically said that a battle was fought in the nineteenth century between the barbarians and the philistines. The philistines won. Be this as it may, it is true to say that in the age between the two great wars—except for a few freaks or poseurs—Englishmen accepted their multiple ready-made from the trans-oceanic jazz factories, painting

was either a rafap or a dead art, and literature was snowed under by cartloads of murder or escapist trash.

I am sorry to harp on these unpopular subjects but to me they symbolise the worst side of England.

I may sound a little un-English in my critical approach to the English scene. But I think that for this very reason I am able to see the virtues of Englishman in plainer colours than the more typical Englishman with his ready acceptances and his innate modesty is able to do. Let me then presume.

I have travelled in many countries and have received much kindness and hospitality, but nowhere have I found a country where kindness and good manners are so much the fabric of the common nature as in England. London bus conductors and policemen, for instance, and railwaymen throughout the country, blunt and direct as they may be on rare occasions, seem to me as a class to be in the finest tradition of chivalry. They are, considering the trials of their calling, almost incredibly helpful and polite. Fools might call them servile, but I know better. You will find the same spirit throughout the length and breadth of England. You may enquire your way to Wiltshire from a yokel trimming a hedge, you may beg a tow for your becalmed sailing boat from a Yorkshire fisherman, you may knock at a cottage window when benighted on the Devonshire moors. Allowing for time and place, for the precaution of self-preservation, you will meet with the most astonishing kindness and helpfulness. Nor are these just specious qualities—they go deep down into the nature of the English people. It is easy to be charitable when you are wealthy, but among the poor of England you will find the pure generosity of sacrifice, of mutual help, and the silent and willing sharing of common suffering to a degree you would not have imagined possible. The greatest of the cardinal virtues is at home in England.

Then there is reliability. We may grumble and scheme, and even backbite—but we trust one another as a whole. The other day I read that a foreign air expert had prophesied that when the German Luftwaffe came down on England, the R.A.F. would crumple up. Of course they did not crumple up, but on what could this air expert have based such a strange prophecy? I cannot think. All I know is that during the dark days of May, June and after, I took stock quite calmly of every calamity that might befall England. But it never occurred to me—or to any other Englishman—that the R.A.F., the Army, the Navy, or the civilian population would "crumple up" even under the most terrific onslaughts. Was the omission to think of this possibility due to patriotism or blind faith? No, it was due to solid experience. I had the honour of commanding English troops in the last war and I know their mettle. They grouse and make cynical remarks about everything and everybody, but they do not "crumple up." They do not swagger and swashbuckle and say what they are going to do to the enemy, and then when the time comes shout for their mothers. I have seen them in the Ypres Salient when the place was a sea of mud, every tree was shattered, and the so-called trenches ran through a charnel house; I have seen them going over the top at dawn, I have seen them as prisoners of war in Germany, ragged and without food. I would trust them anywhere. As for the civilian population in this war, we have only to read our letters from home to see how they are "taking it." I have just received a cable from a seventy-seven year old father telling me to "keep my tail up." If he can keep "his tail up" in the midst of the bombing area, I am sure I can keep mine up among the fleshpots of Singapore. I trust the English, and I say so because I know.

Then there is fairness of mind. Englishmen distrust new ideas,

they distrust foreign innovations. But they do try to be fair. I have often been surprised and amused to see Englishmen—middle-class Englishmen, that is, the kind that you meet in P. & O's—striving to consider with dispassion the ferocious views of some rebel or other who would dynamite the whole nation of them—or so he says. Amongst the citizens of almost any other nation such a rebel would have been thrown out of the door, or overboard, at the very least. But not with the English. They are almost inhumanly tolerant, both to their enemies and the interests that exploit them. But fairness of mind is not a virtue to be despised.

Tied up with these qualities is English humour. It is unique in the world. It is a compost of benevolence and sardonic realism. It is the lubricant that oils all life. It makes equal capital of the sacred and the profane. There is a philosophy tied up with it too, of which at least one ingredient is humility. Examples of this humour are enshrined in our literature from Chaucer to W.W. Jacobs, and it is still vital amongst us. It helps us along. I remember in the trenches in 1916 asking a sergeant, I had not seen for some time what he thought of the war. "They do say, sir," he replied, "that the first seven years is the worst." That is what I call sardonic realism.

These qualities stand out in high relief whenever I think of Englishmen, and though they constitute no inventory of the good that can be found in them, they may stand as symbols on which I build my patriotism.

Then there is the country itself; the product of the English spirit working on the gifts of a bountiful nature. I love the rich brown earth, I love the rolling uplands of ploughland or pasture and the fertile plains, I love the woods of comely trees carpeted with primroses, cowslips, and anemones; I love the moorland and the lakes. The music of English birds is to me beyond all other natural music: the smell of the earth; the hedgerow, the haystack; and the byre, renew the desire to live in me all its fullness. An English cottage, deep gabled and of brick of opulent ancient red, surrounded with a garden of roses, pansies and stocks, of potatoes, onions, lettuce, mint, and sage is to me, as to many other Englishmen abroad, the setting for the ideal autumn of life. Can there be anything grander than the cathedrals of England with their high-arched dim interiors broken by variegated light and their aspiring towers and pinnacles, anything more comely and dignified than the eighteenth-century houses that grace our older city squares? And the weather of England? That is the weather that brings out all the springs of our character. Not only the caressing and serene, the boisterous and the bracing, but the wet and chilling, when icicles linger in the wagon ruts, and sleeping nature is seen as through a veil, is the weather that breathes life. The soil, the hills and valleys, the weather, the circumambient sea are the forces that have formed the nature of England, and from which her rich language, her tolerance, her humour, and her fairness have sprung.

From lament I have passed to rhapsody, and the two are not inconsistent. We are often most critical of the things we love.

It is England I have spoken of rather than Britain, partly because the word Britain for a denizen of these isles still sounds stilted, and partly because it is England I belong to and which I best know. But I would not have it understood that I ignore the virtues of Scotland, Ireland and Wales. As you will see, I hope, the love of mine for England is not at variance with the internationalism of which I have spoken—the willingness to accept the best where the best is to be found, the willingness to apply standards impartially, and the willingness to live in peace and understanding on a basis of equality with the other nations of the earth.

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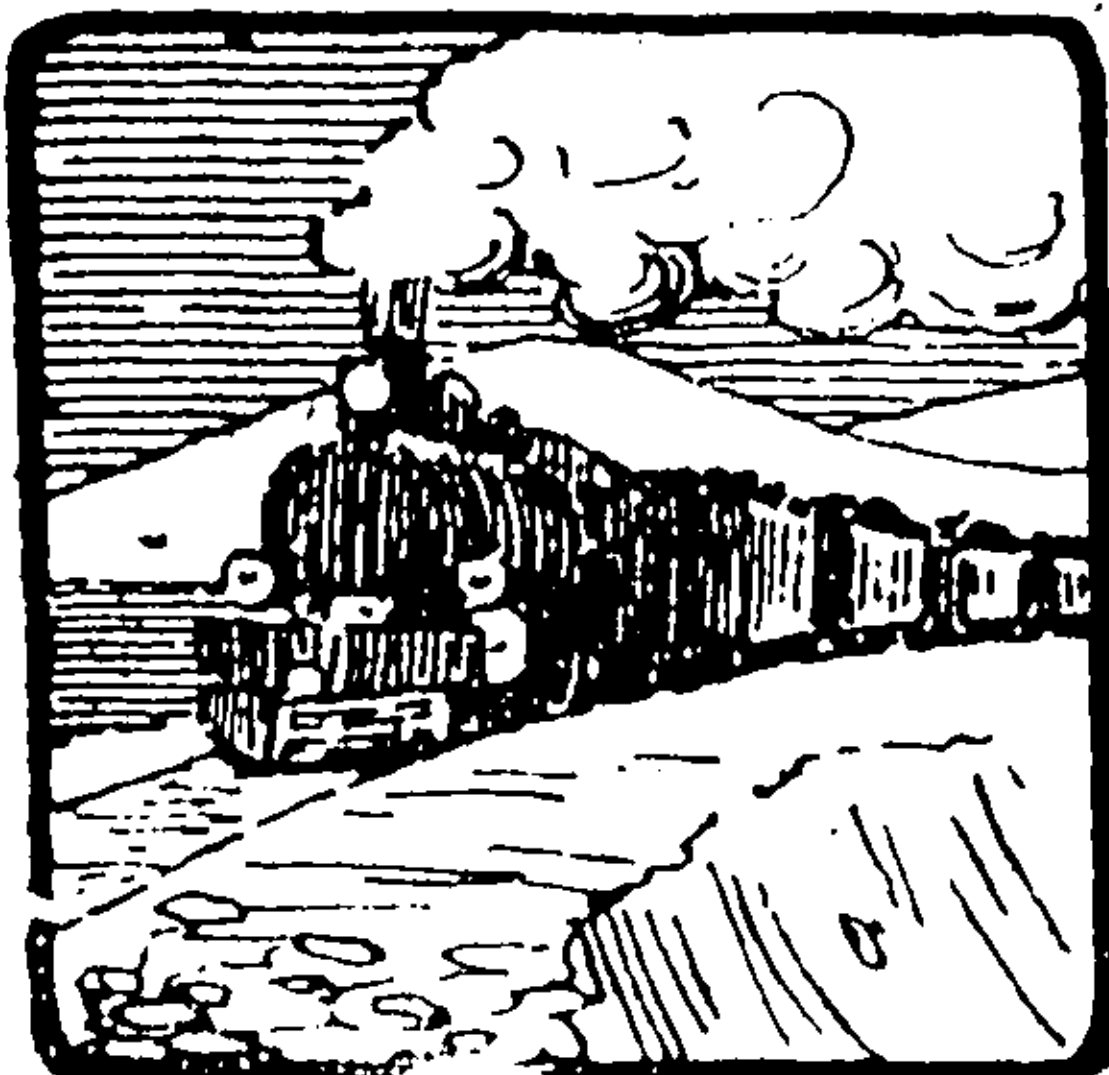
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WOMAN'S WILL POWER SAVES A WHOLE FAMILY

(By A Special Correspondent)
MOTHER, DAUGHTER and son, trapped in the basement of their bomb-wrecked home, were saved after rescue squads had tunnelled under four houses.

But they were only freed because a sister insisted that they were in the basement. Officials had believed that no one was under the wreckage.

After the house was hit Mrs. A. Beale almost wept for joy as she heard the sound of shovels and picks striking wreckage.

She did not know that it was a demolition squad at work, unaware that anyone was trapped in the vicinity.

"No One Here"

Then the sound of someone moving overhead reached the three occupants of the dark, dust-filled room.

To their horror the family heard a voice faintly in the distance say, "It's all right, there's no one here; they were all evacuated before the raid."

The frantic mother and her daughter, aged seventeen, shouted for help, but their cries were not heard.

Mr. Beale, the husband, had left the shelter for a few minutes before the bomb fell, but has since been reported missing.

Ironically, Mrs. Beale, her daughter Irene and her son John could hear the demolition squad still working, salvaging the furniture, only a hundred yards away.

Mother and daughter shouted

Scent As Reviver

Bravely, Mrs. Beale tried to keep up the spirits of her son, aged six, and daughter.

Irene, with a tiny bottle of scent she found in her handbag, bathed the foreheads of her mother and little brother to soothe them.

But outside, by a miracle, the sister of Mrs. Beale, who had heard of the damage, was telling the demolition squad that she was certain that her sister and children were among the wreckage.

For a time no one believed her, for the area had been officially evacuated, but the woman had pleaded with them.

The captain of the squad gave the order and the rescue workers began to tunnel through four houses to get to the basement.

To their amazement they found the family exhausted and suffering from shock, but still alive.

"Leave Us The Light"

Mr. A. W. Brown, one of the rescue squad, told a reporter:

"When we first made the hole in the wall and shone a torch through Mrs. Beale cried, 'For heaven's sake leave us the light'."

"It was fourteen hours after they had been trapped before we got them out. All of them were overjoyed."

"The little boy, who had been very brave, said, 'Thank you, mister, when we lifted them out.'"

"Mrs. Beale said that the worst part of their ordeal was when they heard people near them saying there was no one in need of help."

"It was like being buried alive." Mr. Beale, who had apparently left the shelter and intended to return has not yet been traced.

Mrs. Beale and her family are now staying with friends in another London district.

RHUBARB MAY HELP

Rhubarb may help us to win the war — if secret experiments now being carried out by experts at a well-known North of England University are successful.

"We hope to get extremely valuable results. We have isolated a substance which is of great value in the manufacture of war materials. If we can devise a method for mass-producing it — I believe we shall soon — it should have more than a small effect on the outcome of the war."

The discovery is largely due to Mr. Selwyn Wade, a rhubarb farmer, who recollected that years ago rhubarb was largely used in the dyeing industry.

He collected rhubarb from his own farm at Oulton, near Leeds, and sent it to the University with certain proposals for experiments. The experts immediately got to work.

BANK IN THE MORNING

The leading joint stock banks in London — and the big provincial centres are appealing to customers to transact business as early as possible in the day.

"If customers could possibly visit the bank during the first two hours of the morning," said the chief cashier of a provincial branch, "they would save themselves a good deal of time and greatly assist the banking staffs."

SOCIETY GIRL WEDS BANDIT FREED AFTER SIX YEARS

Society beauty Miss Ethel Barrett, of St. Louis, has wed Edward G. Dillon, notorious robber, after waiting six years for his release from Sing Sing.

When Dillon passed through the prison gates, free at last, Miss Barrett stepped from her limousine and ran into his arms. Known as the Top Hat Robber, Dillon committed seventy-four hold-ups in fashionable Chicago homes and many thefts in exclusive New York night clubs and hotels.

When he was sentenced Miss Barrett publicly proclaimed her love for him. "As soon as he's freed I shall be his wife," she said.

Aged thirty-five, he has spent fourteen years in prisons.

ROBERT TAYLOR SIGNS

Clark Gable and Gary Cooper are over military age, it was revealed when 16,000,000 men aged between 21 and 35 registered for military service in the United States.

Robert Taylor, Tyrone Power, Don Ameche, and Errol Flynn, however, were all in the queue at Hollywood.

It was the first peace-time draft in the nation's history. In New York City alone 1,700,000 men filled in forms.

The sidewalks of big cities and main streets of small towns echoed with the tread of rich and poor, immaculate and ragged.

No one between the age limits was exempt. There were no "ifs," "buts" or "ands" about this registration.

Even The Blind

It made no difference whether you had a wife and eight children or eight wives and a child. The deaf, the blind, and the legless all answered the 11 questions on the forms, and took part in the United States answer to the challenge of Hitler and Mussolini.

From these men who registered 400,000 will be chosen by lottery after the Presidential election. These will be sent to camp for a year's military training.

One section of the Press looks dismally at the registration. The New York World Telegram says in an editorial:

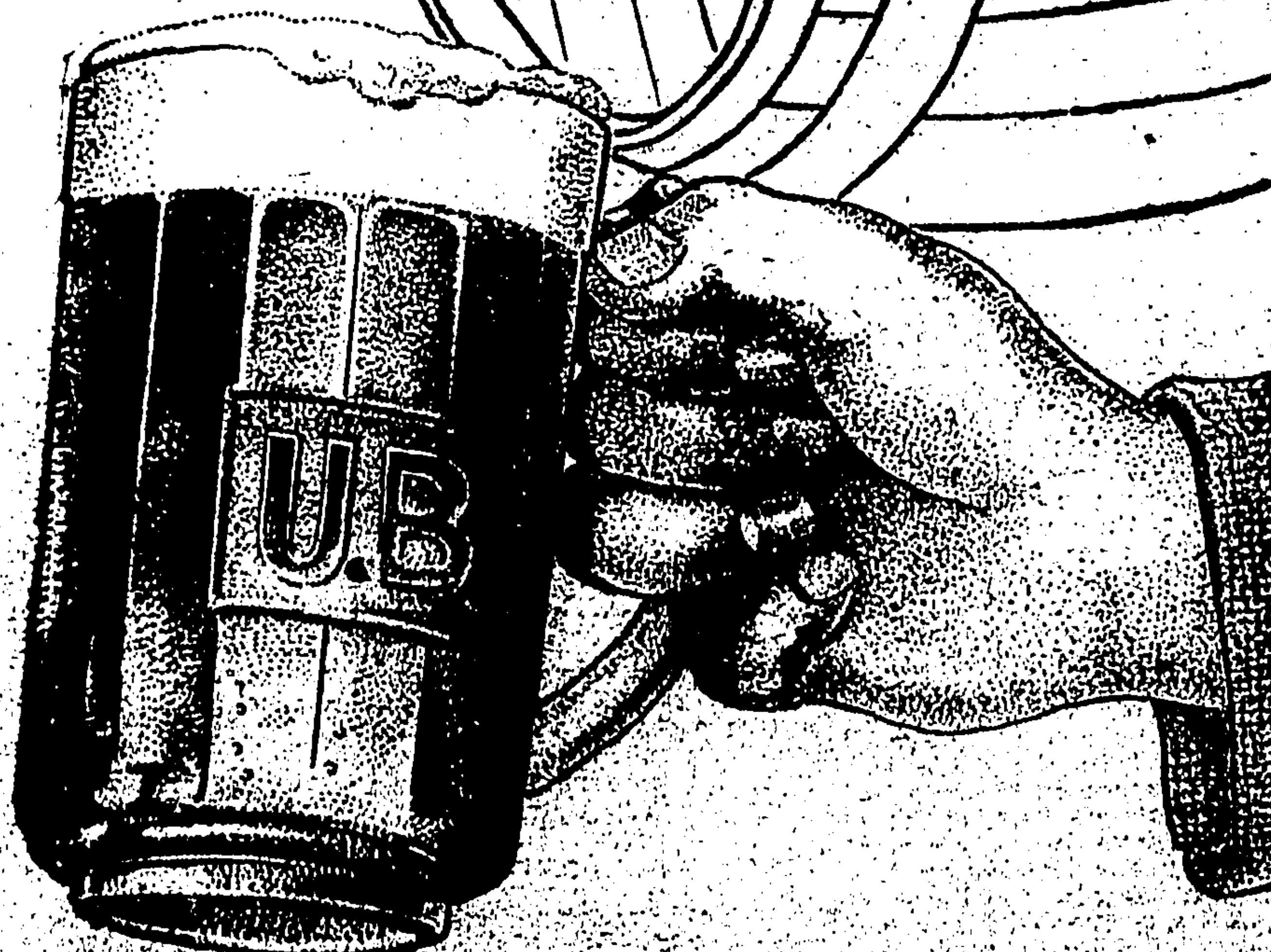
"We have been straying towards war and now we are galloping. So let us not delude ourselves on this day, when 16,000,000 Americans register in selection drafts — can anyone to-day still have complete confidence that our nation will avoid involvement? We think not. World events are moving too rapidly."

5,000 FRENCH QUIT SYRIA

About 5,000 officers and men of the French Army in Syria are now on their way home to France. The garrisons in Syria and Lebanon have been reduced to approximately 40,000.

U.B. BEER

LIGHT & DARK

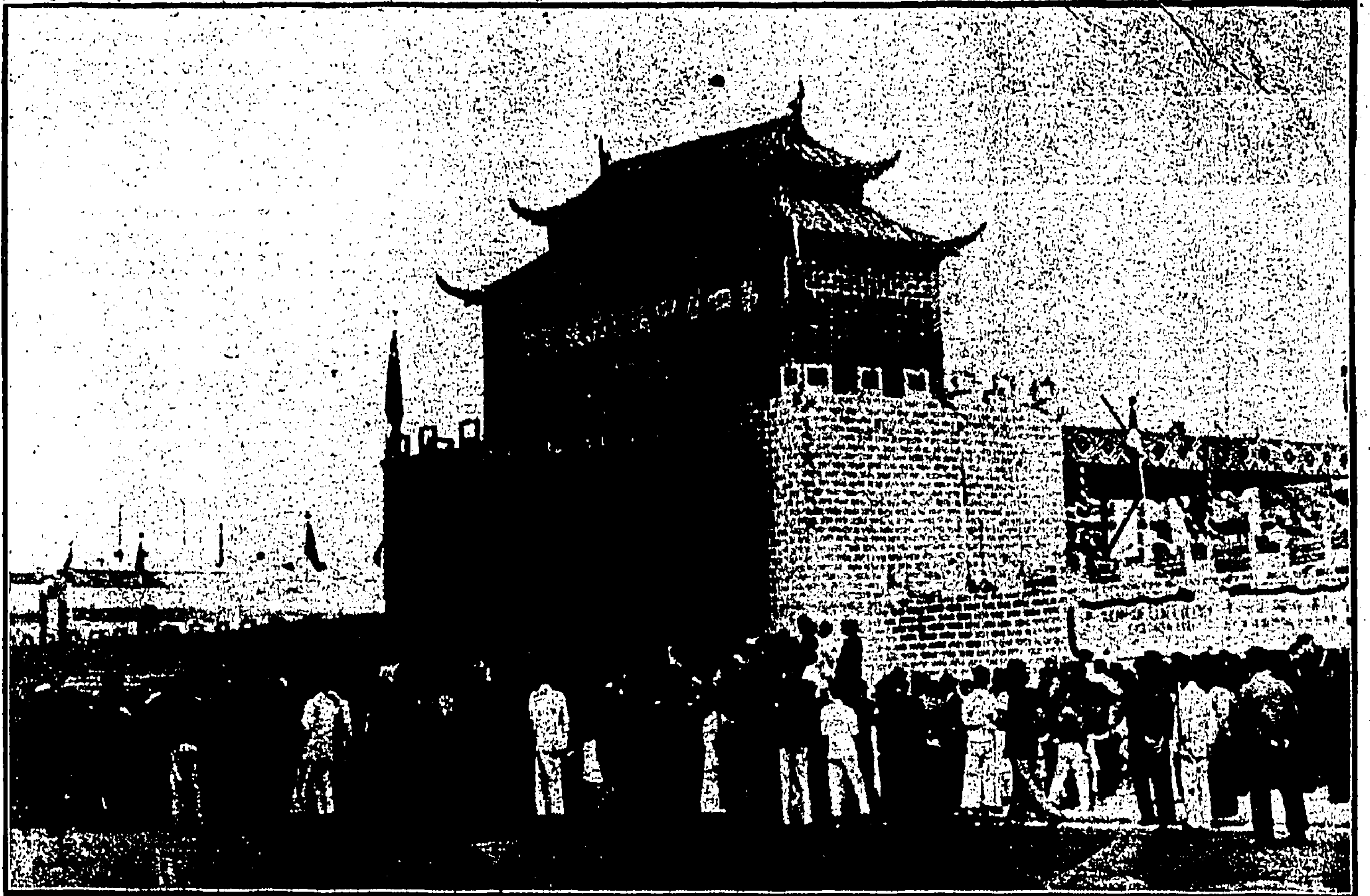


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The striking entrance to the China Products Exhibition at Kowloon which has been drawing large crowds.

(At Left)—His Excellency the Acting Governor cutting the tape on opening day of the China Products Exhibition.



The official group photograph at the opening of the China Products Exhibition.



A living bridge formed by the 84 Yung-poon Boys Club at the University sports ground.



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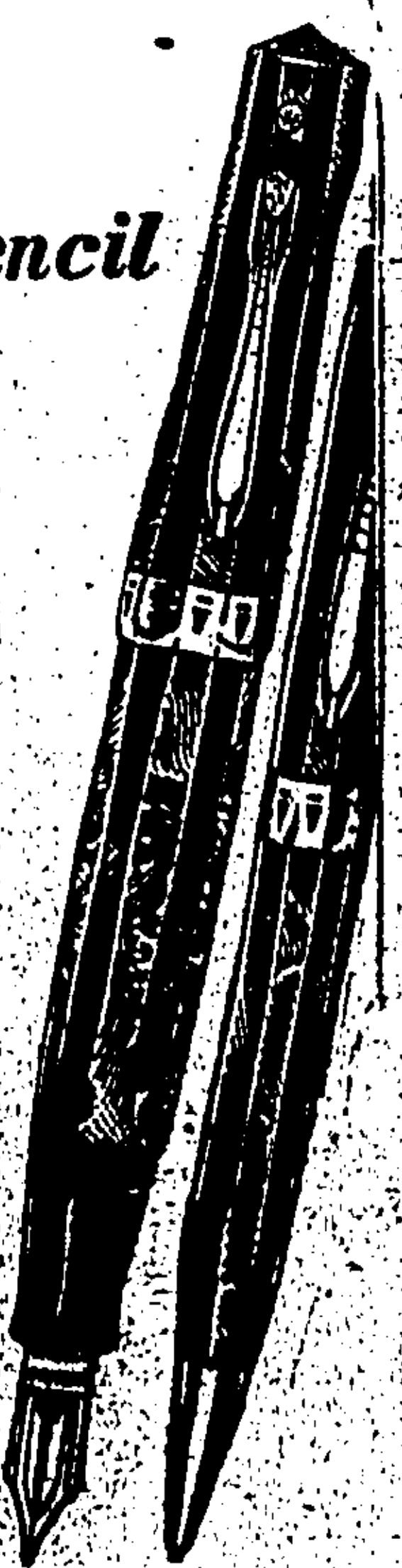
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SHORT STORY

TINNED MEAT

By L. T. Hamilton

OWING to the unfriendly activities of one of her powerful neighbours, the Government of the Republic of Neustria decided to send its ace investigator to the Embassy in London, where he would be listed as assistant military attaché.

This Intelligence agent was known to his comrades-in-arms as Captain Barra. He was dark of hair and sun-burnt of complexion, not above the average in height with a knack of passing in the crowd in spite of an individual cast of features. I should have put him down as a Basque, but he was English, from one of the home counties, in fact.

He had been wandering about Europe, a young man with an expensive education, no particular training, and very little money. By one of those chances of Fate, he had saved the Premier of Neustria from the bullets of a half-wit. That statesman, finding that Barra (as his name really was) was a good linguist and had had some military training both at school and in the Territorials, put him in the Neustrian Army for a start and then had him sent on confidential missions until the young man proved himself cool and reliable. Barra was then transferred to the General Staff, X Branch, and visited foreign countries with malice aforethought. He was also rough on rats, as many enemy agents discovered to their cost.

A likeable fellow when not on the prod was Barra. I was dining with him in Paris when he received the news of his appointment. "More trouble," he sighed, "and I was so happy here. Nothing to do except visit the Ministry for War. You know that the French and we work hand in hand, of course." I was Barra's only confident. There were certain reasons for this which would take too long to explain. I was annoyed when young Blakesley strolled over to our table, flanked by two cuties, one a dazzling blonde and the other a raven black.

He had been imbibing, but was not blotto. "Hello, you two. Why Barra! I have not seen you for donkeys' years. I'm throwing a party and you are in it. The bubbly is on me." He spoke to the pretties in French and they turned out to be Ysolde de Something or the other and Liane de Quelque Chose. These were their war-names, let it be understood. In reality they were not patricians, but they were very attractive girls.

Barra said: "All right, I'm free until to-morrow evening, so if you want to make it a 24-hour sitting lead me to it. 'It's a go,' shouted Blakesley. "We will do all the joints. Glad I met you. Where do we go from here?"

That started it. Paris is regaining its pre-war night life and there are scores of cabarets and night clubs which only get lively at midnight.

Blakesley confided to us that he had made a big coup. He had landed an enormous contract for his firm and had been paid part of his commission in advance. He was also to receive a handsome bonus for introducing new business to his firm, an internationally known firm of wholesale provision merchants who dealt in government contracts, among other things.

Barra grew more and more bored as Blakesley told us how he had met this aristocratic old gentleman on the way back from Buenos Ayres who had turned out to be a big noise in the Valdanian Government. Now Valdania was the powerful and unfriendly neighbour of Neustria, and I grew interested, but not Barra, who applied himself to the wine and to whispering naughty nothings to Ysolde and Liane in turn.

The old gentleman had a mania for the old-fashioned card game of pinchle, bezique as we call it in England. He liked to gamble on it. Now Blakesley had learnt the game from a wealthy maiden aunt, and he sat in as the old gentleman's partner at a game called Auction Bezique, which is really a very skillful and interesting form of gambling.

The o.g. was delighted with him, and one evening asked him what he did for a living. The young man sang which she did a weird

Englishman told him and the o.g. rattling his winnings in his pocket, or, to be more correct, rustling the notes, said: "I'll put some business your way. See me in the main library at ten a.m."

Blakesley was there with bells on, as he phrased it, and received an order for tinned meat that took his breath away. He had to wireless both London and Buenos Ayres before he could accept it. "We are chartering special steamships. It's the biggest order the firm's ever had and the first from Valdania."

"Money all right?" I asked rather cynically, but then some governments do not like paying cash.

"Okie Dokie," answered our host. "Twenty per cent. in advance and the rest to be paid, part on shipment, part on delivery. Boys, you see before you a rising young business man. The firm has put my salary up, quadrupled it, and my commission alone from this deal will give me capital enough to retire on if I wanted. Also, they have put my commission up for further deals. Yoicks, boys, yoicks."

Barra made an excuse: "I've got to slip out for a few minutes. I'll be back without fail. This drinking is just getting interesting."

The girls had to be reassured that he was returning and when they had been pacified and Barra had left us, Blakesley turned to me and said: "Not a word of this, mind you. I know it would make a good newspaper story, but I'll hand you something big when I get permission from London."

We had been talking in English, and it was pretty certain that neither of the girls had the faintest suspicion of what Blakesley had told us. They knew a little English, just enough to make a casual visitor buy them a bottle of champagne and other trifles. Blakesley only knew Barra as a foreigner who spoke good English, like many other Continental officers who have been partly educated in Britain or had English tutors at home.

He had no knowledge of Barra's connection with any form of secret service. In fact, my friend from Neustria was supposed to be in Paris to attend courses at the Senior School of War.

Our friend returned and applied himself to the wine and eventually proved himself to be the life and soul of the party. He had the girls in fits. Blakesley, who speaks French very well, was laughing till the tears rolled down his face, and others joined us, Prince Sabine, the handsome ex-Cossack leader; Vera, his wife, who earned the family living by singing at the Pink Dog; Rowland, of the Transatlantic Press Syndicate; Lawrence of the London Briton; De Vasseur, that most charming of boulevardiers, and one of the cleverest all-round men I have ever met.

It was Vasseur who insisted we should be his guests at the new Miramar, in which he had a large interest. This place, which only opened at midnight, was decorated in Mexican style, the waiters were vacuera clothes of black velvet decorated with silver, and the cigarette and chocolate girls were decked out as Mexican belles on a baile day.

It was a new fashion which had caught the fickle fancy of the Parisian rich Bohemia, and seats were difficult to obtain in the supper-room. Prices were exorbitant. In the usual course of events, I would not have dared set foot in the show, even allowing for the fact that the French franc is 179 to the £ and I drew my earnings from England and so won on the exchange.

Vasseur had visited Mexico, where his family had vast financial interests, in order to bring back some senoritas who could certainly dance. He had designed their costumes himself, improving on the local cut and colour, and the way they performed the Habanera was enough to provoke St. Anthony himself.

Vasseur was always generous and always tactful. He knew that the Sabines were poor, so he asked Vera in a low tone to give him a song, which she did a weird

Russian battle-song in which you could hear the hooves of the cavalry hordes charging across the plain, the clash of steel, the bitter sorrow that comes after battle. When she came down from the little stage reserved for vocalists and soloists, the crowd went mad. She had "got across," as stage folk say. Vasseur kissed her on the cheeks, then turned to her husband and asked his permission; that was the Frenchman's way. "Vera, my charming, you must leave that canker resort, the Pink Dog. You must come here. Excuse me talking business, but there is no time like the present. I will have the manager draw up a contract, which you will sign before you date to leave." Then in a low voice which I could not help overhearing, he mentioned a figure that left the handsome Russian gaping. Tears filled her eyes. "But it means comfort, freedom from worry, oh, many things I cannot express." "Then do not try, Madame la Princesse," replied Vasseur, with a courteous inclination of the head.

We finished that party at ten in the morning. At two in the afternoon I was roused by Barra, spick-and-span in Bond-street tweeds, clear-eyed and alert.

"You must have a head like a rhinoceros or a hippopotamus, or both of them," I grumbled. "Rise and shine," he ordered me, "I have a job of work for you. Get leave of absence from the rag in which you perpetrate your inanities and do what I tell you, and you will have plenty of tobacco in your old tobacco box."

I was due for a spot of holiday anyhow, and London was quite agreeable to my leaving my French assistant in charge of our Paris Office.

"Come with me to London," said Barra after I had eaten, with some difficulty, a species of late lunch.

We took the afternoon plane to Croydon, and I motored with Barra to the Embassy. "Wait here," said my friend. "I must see his Excellency and procure funds and papers."

He kept me waiting an hour and a half, then came out grinning. "All set, we leave for Hamburg as soon as possible. I want to pick up some technical gear there. Here is your passport, you are temporarily a citizen of Neustria. Your name is Martin and you are a Professor of History of the Central University travelling to enlarge your mind. I am a certain Volche, a research chemist, from the University staff, travelling for more technical reasons. We are both poor and honest, but not too poor and not too honest. Do you get me?"

"Yes, I suppose so," I murmured doubtfully.

In Hamburg Barra put me to drinking with a burly, black-bearded deep sea skipper, a Dutchman, with a marvellous capacity for rum and schnapps. He had a very high opinion of Barra, but of few other people.

My friend appeared the night the Dutchman was sailing for La Plata. He ordered a heavy package to be delivered on the skipper's steamship, and then informed me that we were sailing with the Dutchman, nominally as members of the crew, but in reality as passengers. "But what about the paper?" I gasped.

"Oh, that is all arranged. I telephoned your editor whom I met last year and he says that if you come back alive your job will be still open to you, but that if you get into trouble, you can be hanged, shot or merely drowned as far as he cares."

"That's consoling."

We anchored off a wharf some way from Buenos Ayres and, after a case of seven-pound tins of what Tommy Atkins calls bully beef were loaded in the hold. There were several obvious Valdanians attached to the crew, undoubtedly as guards, but they were busily plying with rum and so did not do much in the way of guard duties. I hardly saw Barra during this period. He was busy all night together with a ruffianly crew who certainly were not the stevedores who had been loading the cargo. Although dirty, unshaven and rough, they were of a higher type.

I was with Barra, however,

when he wined the crowd of them in a posada the night before we sailed. He paid out good money to them and left the chief ruffian a number of demijohns of some liquid, instructing him not to allow any of the band to drink it.

"We jumped ship" at Port Said on the return journey. Already there was a rather nauseating odour pervading the ship, which was otherwise as clean a vessel as I have seen of its kind. It surprised me that the Dutch skipper paid no attention to this odour and, when I mentioned it, merely winked and said it was my imagination and the fumes of rum mixed. So thereafter, I held my tongue. I guessed rightly enough that Barra had been up to some villainy.

I reported back to Fleet Street, bronzed and fit as a fiddle, also with a comfortable sum of money in my possession which Barra had paid me for what he was pleased to call "my moral assistance." He said that I made a perfect Professor of History; in fact, he would advise the Neustrian Government to give me a Chair in the subject.

The managing editor received me somewhat in the manner the governor of a Borsial institution must welcome a runaway. "Do you see this?" he barked, and threw me over a message from our man at Peltara, the capital of Valdania.

"Grave scandal of War Office Contracts. Reserve supplies of tinned meat found to be putrid. The War Office has recently purchased from a firm of international repute a vast consignment of Argentine tinned meat. The supplies were examined before shipping and were, apparently, in good condition on arrival. An issue was made to troops on manoeuvres along the Neustrian frontier and the meat was found to be rotten. It had seemingly been contaminated by some erosive chemical."

"I think you had better go back to Paris and say nothing about your expedition to South America," said the Chief. "We cannot have our correspondent mixed up in such matters." Then he smiled: "You damned saboteur, I knew that young Barra would be up to some monkey trick or the other. Anyway, you have probably averted war. The Valdanians were all armed and raring to go, but they have no meat unless they slay cattle, and they would have to buy from Russia if they want to make trouble before Winter sets in. Get out of my sight and for goodness sake send me some news. None of your cabaret dope." So I departed for Paris, leaving Barra at the Embassy, where I had dined with his Excellency, the Neustrian ambassador to the Court of St. James, who gave me a capital news-story as a sort of bonus for my efforts.

Both the second and third consignments of meat of the Valdanian Army were found to be contaminated. Unfortunately, the government, anxious to prove its good faith and to stand in well with the British interests, had paid the bill; now they were suing

to recover at least part of the amount.

I was heartily thankful to learn that young Blakesley was in Athens. I did not wish to meet him for some little while. Then Barra popped over and told me to release a sensational yarn about secret agents deliberately damaging the meat cargoes with a new corrosive acid of intense strength that had been invented by a German chemist. He even gave me the name and formula of the acid. "You can say it was that notorious free-lance spy, Captain da Souza, who operated," he told me. "It is always safe to blame anything on Da Souza. He doesn't care. It is a good advertisement for him in a way."

So I spread myself and the story was front-paged and the Chief congratulated me warmly in an official letter and called me something appalling on the telephone. "Ananias would be ashamed to look you in the face, you double-decked robber," he barked, "but it was a good story."

A day or two later I was visited by the fair Ysolde and the dark Liane, who opened on me in perfect English. "Mr. Blakesley talks a little too much, don't you think so, Mr. Carroll?" said the first. "I'm glad that Captain Barra sent his wire from the all-night post-office at the Bourse," said Liane. Then they both put out their pretty pink hands, "Money, please, m'sieu," they chorused.

"Er, what the devil do you mean, holding me up in my office?" They laughed joyfully, and Liane said: "Oh, M'sieu Carroll, you will be calling us gold-diggers next. Don't you know Captain Barra employed us to, what do you call it, let me see, oh, to contact M'sieu Blakesley?"

"The damned scoundrel," I ejaculated virtuously.

Again they laughed and this time it was Ysolde who spoke. "You made your little share, did you not, M'sieu Carroll? Well, we want ours. We know the money is safe, but we made la bombe last night and now we are on the rocks, dry, busted."

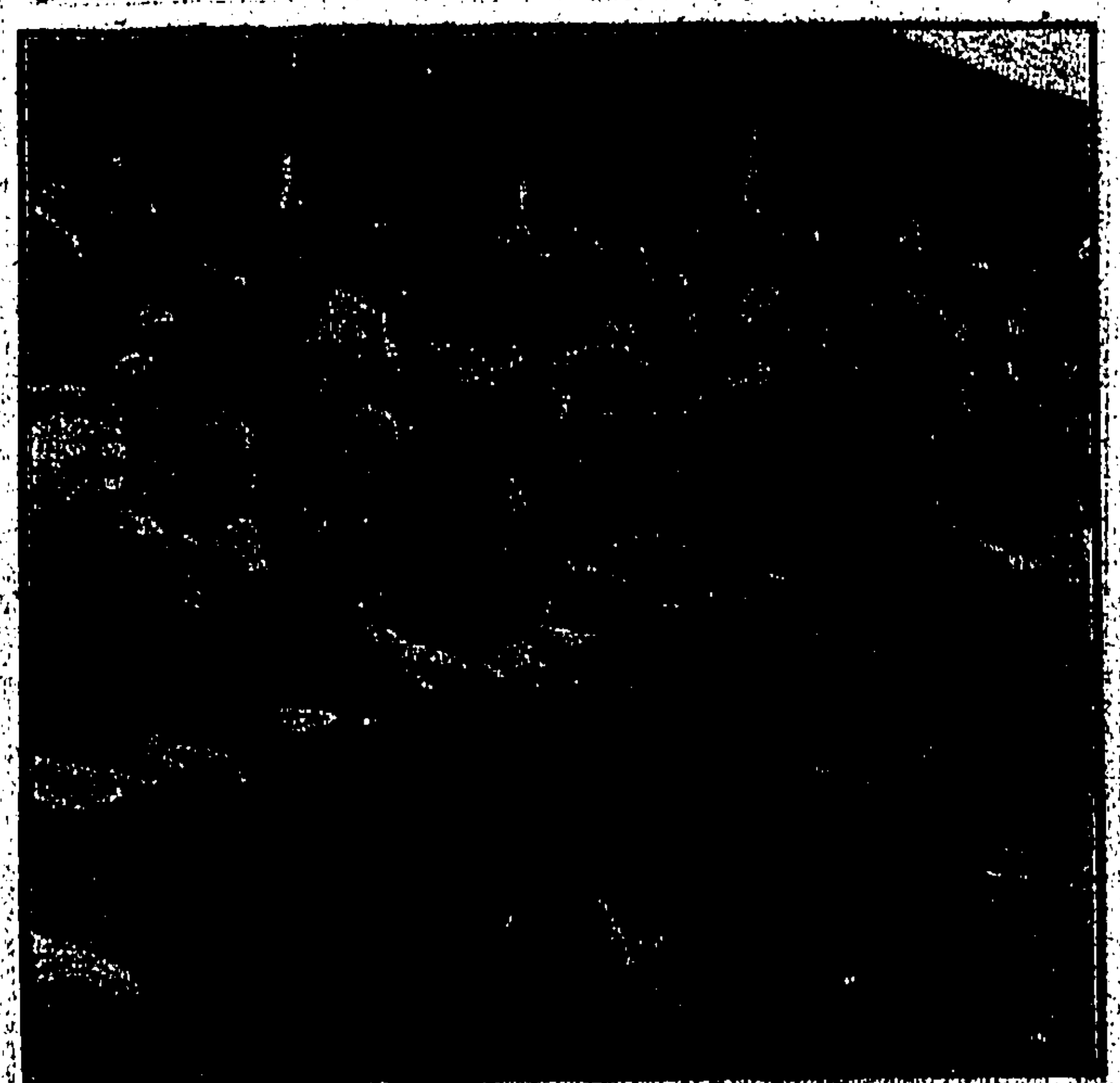
"You speak very good English. They both curtsied in mockery. "Thank you, kind sir."

"I nearly fainted when Ysolde, altering her voice, announced, 'I come from Brum,' and Liane, her eyes sparkling, told me that she was born in that pretty little village at the foot of the Surrey hills, namely, Peckham, which is Postal District S.E.15 of London Town."

"Let's go and have a drink," I suggested. "One of the things we came here for," they chorused.

I put a call through to Barra who instructed me to inform the fair damsels to go to Van Reyn, the Dutch private banker, who would pay them over certain moneys.

When I gave them the good news they both kissed me rapturously, and Liane dated me up. Ysolde publicly announced her intention of laying her snares for Barra, and chanted: "Oh, mama, go get that man for me," but she'll have a hard journey. He's a hard nut, is Captain Barra.



Queets and Judges at the physical training display at the Hong Kong Football Club ground.

Briton, The Poor Fool!

"It's a year ago to-day," said Mrs. Steady, looking up at her sister-in-law from a study of her diary pages, "that we drove into Grayminster to buy those black-out curtains."

"All the soldiers on the roads, and the traffic lights down to almost nothing . . ." said Geraldine Steady. "It might be a hundred years!"

"It was the next night," said Mrs. Steady, "that I did my first spell of Air Raid Precautions duty. The day after that the first evacuee children came from Wightport, and you decided to stay with me. Smalltown hasn't been the peaceful refuge I promised you, Geraldine!"

"I feel like Nelson," said Miss Steady, defiantly. "Do you remember that saying of his at one of the big battles? 'I would not be elsewhere for thousands!'"

"There are so many things one's forgotten," went on Mrs. Steady, turning the pages of her book. "Got battery for electric torch at last! The worst battery famine was in November. Then about the cold . . . Wasn't that dreadful winter like the vigil before the accolade of knighthood? How our fighting airmen are winning their spurs! Heard that Nazis had invaded Holland before breakfast from the chimney sweep . . ."

"I hope they got no breakfast," murmured Geraldine, "but I expect they did!"

"David's leave over," I wonder . . ."

David Steady was one of those fighting airmen. It was a pity for his Mother to wonder too much about him.

"I hope you put down the little things," said Miss Steady. "Private diaries are history. The first time we saw the balloons over Wightport . . . the first air raid warning . . . doesn't that seem years ago? The first time we were woken up by gunfire . . . the first camouflaged car . . . the first camouflaged house on the Terrace . . . the first time someone said 'I'll come if there isn't a raid on!'"

"There were other first times, too," said Mrs. Steady, dreamily. "The first time I realised that this isn't just a fight between ourselves and our Allies, and the Germans; that if we were beaten it would be the end of all decent existence. I was frightened when I saw that first, though I didn't let you know it. How could nice,

casual creatures, like David and the other boys, girls like my Molly and Joan, in their hospitals and ambulances, have such responsibility? Then came Dunkirk . . . and the French collapse, and we knew we'd got to win the war by ourselves somehow, and it seemed to get easier."

"What you mean," said Miss Steady, "is that there's a tonic in personal danger. That's why people ride the Grand National and shoot rapids and so on, I suppose. We're all getting that tonic, and personal responsibility, too. It's doing us a world of good!"

Smalltown, with the other towns and villages of Southshire, and

By
Kathleen
Conyngham
Greene, O.B.E.

of Eastshire and Northeastshire, is proud of being in the front line of the Battle of Britain.

There is little that the High Command of the Royal Air Force could tell us about air fighting that we do not feel we know . . . and in some respects better than they

do! A distinguished Air Marshal has said that he cannot be sure of the sound of a German bomber. There isn't a Smalltown man or woman who will not nod wisely towards a particular sort of overhead droning.

"That's a German . . .!" And then, to a sound of a different timbre—

"That's the Hurricanes after him!"

The Briton, poor fool, his enemies say, will never agree that he's beaten. He—and she—won't even agree to be frightened! When planes are swooping, and machine-gunfire is rattling, over the roofs of Smalltown, old Mrs. Still

has to be, almost forcibly, propelled into the house by her family.

"I've got so blind," says Mrs. Still, "that I can't see them properly unless they fly really low."

Mr. Bunn, the baker, had the front of his shop sliced off by a bomb one night. The very next day there was a big poster nailed up on the one wall left standing:—

"Who cares for Hitler? Bread and cakes as usual."

When "all day long the noise of battle rolls," Smalltown housewives pick up their baskets and run out, between raids, to do their shopping.

Even the dogs seem to be imbued with the same courage. Mrs. Steady's golden cocker spaniel, who hides under the table at the pop of a Guy Fawkes Day cracker, does not lift his head from his basket at the sound of far louder bangs.

"Private diaries are history," said Mrs. Steady, meditatively, looking down at her book. "If any grandchildren of mine should read what I've written, they may think it's terribly trivial. Of course I've written about the war. Here's last Friday—Bombs in Chestnut Street. Three small houses wrecked. Took coat and shoes to Mrs. Chatter whose clothes were buried. But then I've said, G. and I to bridge club!"

"On Saturday I've written much fighting all day over the town. Watched great air battle above Wightport in barroom. Balloon hit. Saw Nazi bombers falling. The grandchildren might think that was interesting."

"But what about 'Cinema in evening'? Of course it was that war film about the lighthouse men, and there wasn't an air raid warning till we got home. I shouldn't like anyone who reads the diary to feel we were dreadful people, playing bridge and going to the cinema, while we were fighting for civilisation!"

"Don't you worry!" said Geraldine. "The Germans are telling their own people now that all this part of England is a heap of smoking ruins. If you and I are alive at all we ought to be gibbering with terror underground! As we are alive, and living normal, cheerful lives in a comfortable house, why shouldn't your future grandchildren, and the historians of the future, be able to read the truth?"

Mussolini's Dream

by
Basil Matthews

The name of Graziani, Mussolini's Governor General of the Italian North African colony of Libya, brings curses to the lips of every Arab, whether he is in his tent in the Syrian desert or sipping coffee in the bazaars of Tunis or Algiers.

The Arabs everywhere feel undying hate for the man who, to crush their resistance to his tyranny in Libya, took sheikhs of noble birth into the air and threw them from aeroplanes to crash to death among their tribal followers, and who beat others to death.

He, too, it was who—forcibly transporting Libyan Arab tribes by the hundred thousand to desert areas, destroyed their flocks and herds—reducing their camels from 75,000 to 2,600, their sheep from 800,000 to 98,000 and their horses from 14,000 to 1,000.

Graziani succeeded as Governor Italo Balbo, whose mysterious death in an air-crash cast suspicion on Graziani.

Balbo's Colony

Balbo was a very different type from Graziani, and would have done much more to give Italy a real Empire, based on sound methods of development. Mussolini sent him to Libya in order to put him into the background; for Balbo's exploits in the air had made him the adored hero of the Italian people and a potential rival to the Duce.

Balbo didn't accept his governorship of Libya as exile. He set to work to improve flocks and herds, and he also carried through

a great mass-colonisation scheme. In 1938 he transported twenty thousand Italian peasants on sixteen steamships from Italy to Libya and settled them all within twenty-four hours in eighteen hundred farm houses—all exactly identical with one another, on farms provided not only in seed and animal stock, but also in

water for irrigation from artesian wells sunk fifteen hundred feet beneath the Libyan sand.

Balbo thus began to create, behind the narrow fringe of fertility on the thousand mile coast line of Libya, a new Italy in Africa. His death ended his work, and Graziani began the other sort of Empire-building—the sort that Mussolini prefers—a brutal tyranny.

The Population Problem

But Mussolini still values the mass-colonisation idea. His first motive for this is to find space for Italy's swiftly growing population. Her increase is at the rate of 400,000 a year. Mussolini, by financial and other inducements, incites the Italian people to have more babies, and at the same time, utters curses because there is inadequate room for them on Italian soil.

The Libyan colonisation is a step towards the answer, but it is only a small step.

The second driving force behind Mussolini's Imperialism is the Fascist passion for a self-sufficient Italy, or to use the word invented by the Dictators an "autarky". The menace of economic sanctions, held over the head of Italy during the Abyssinian crisis, wounded Fascist pride. Italy now plans that Libya shall be a farm of the Roman Empire which, with Abyssinia, would theoretically go some way towards making her independent of imports.

The third motive for colonising Libya is that of strategic security.

Obviously if some hundred thousand sturdy and prolific peasants, owning their own farms in Libya and, therefore, keen on defending that territory, are living on the soil of Africa immediately opposite to Sicily and the toe of Italy, Italy's strategic position in the Mediterranean is much stronger.

The Mantle Of Caesar

The fourth driving force in the Italian adventure of colonisation in North Africa is tied up with all the others.

It is the motive that appeals so much to the imagination of Mussolini, who sleeps every night with the famous book "The Mantle of Caesar" by his bedside; it is the motive of prestige, the passionate desire to make the Mediterranean the lake of a new Roman Empire whose frontiers might even go down to the marches of India.

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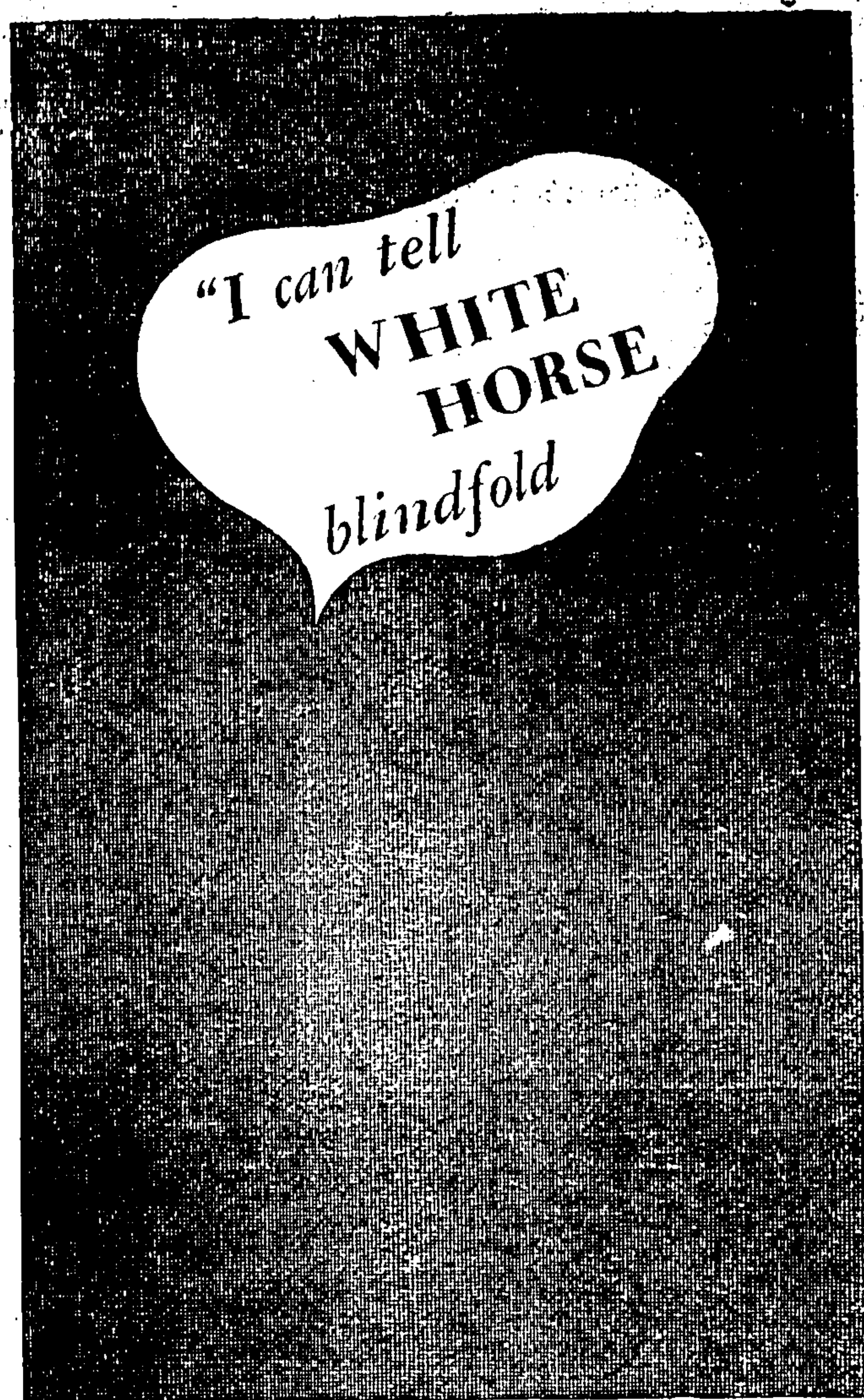
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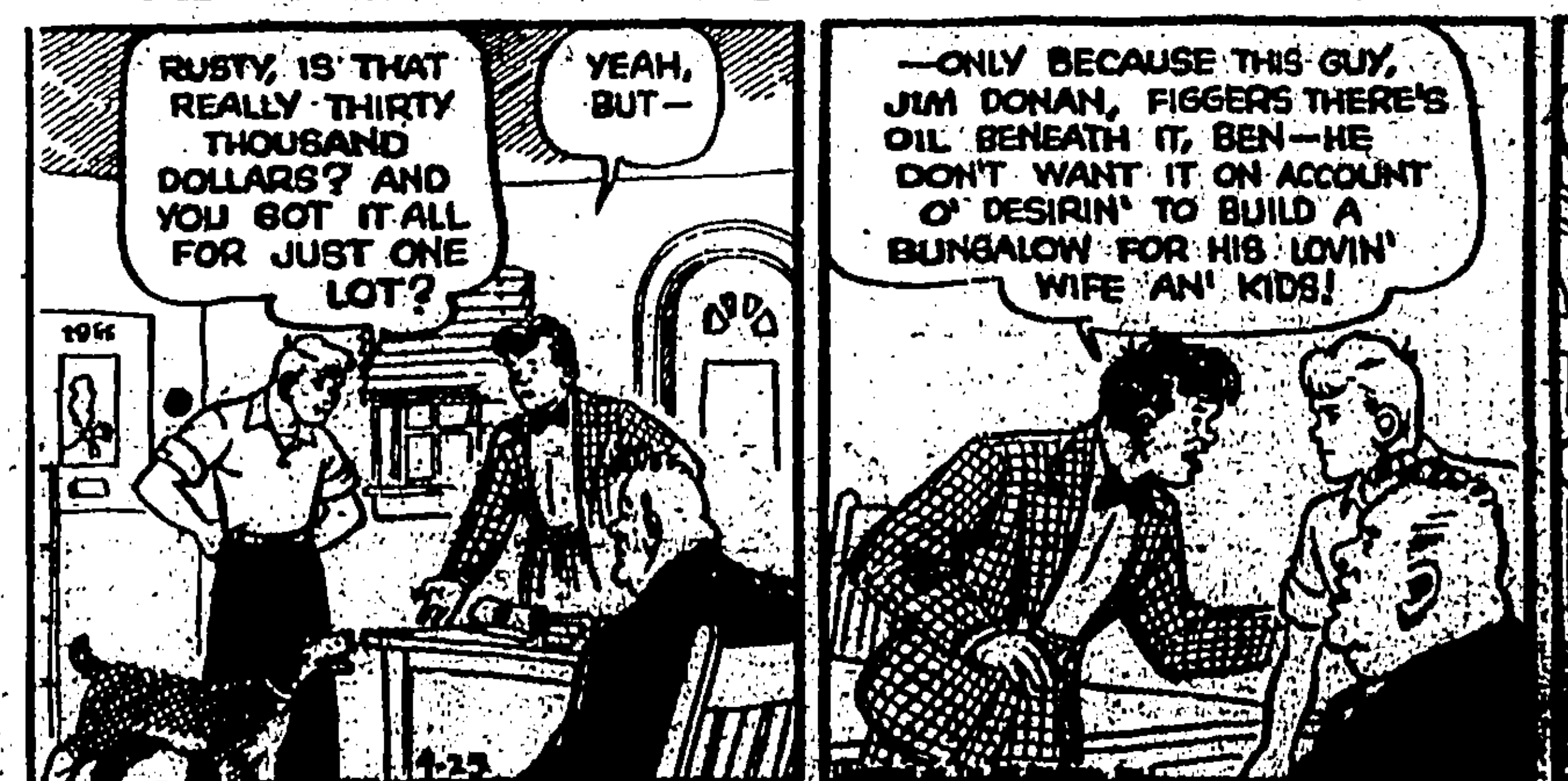
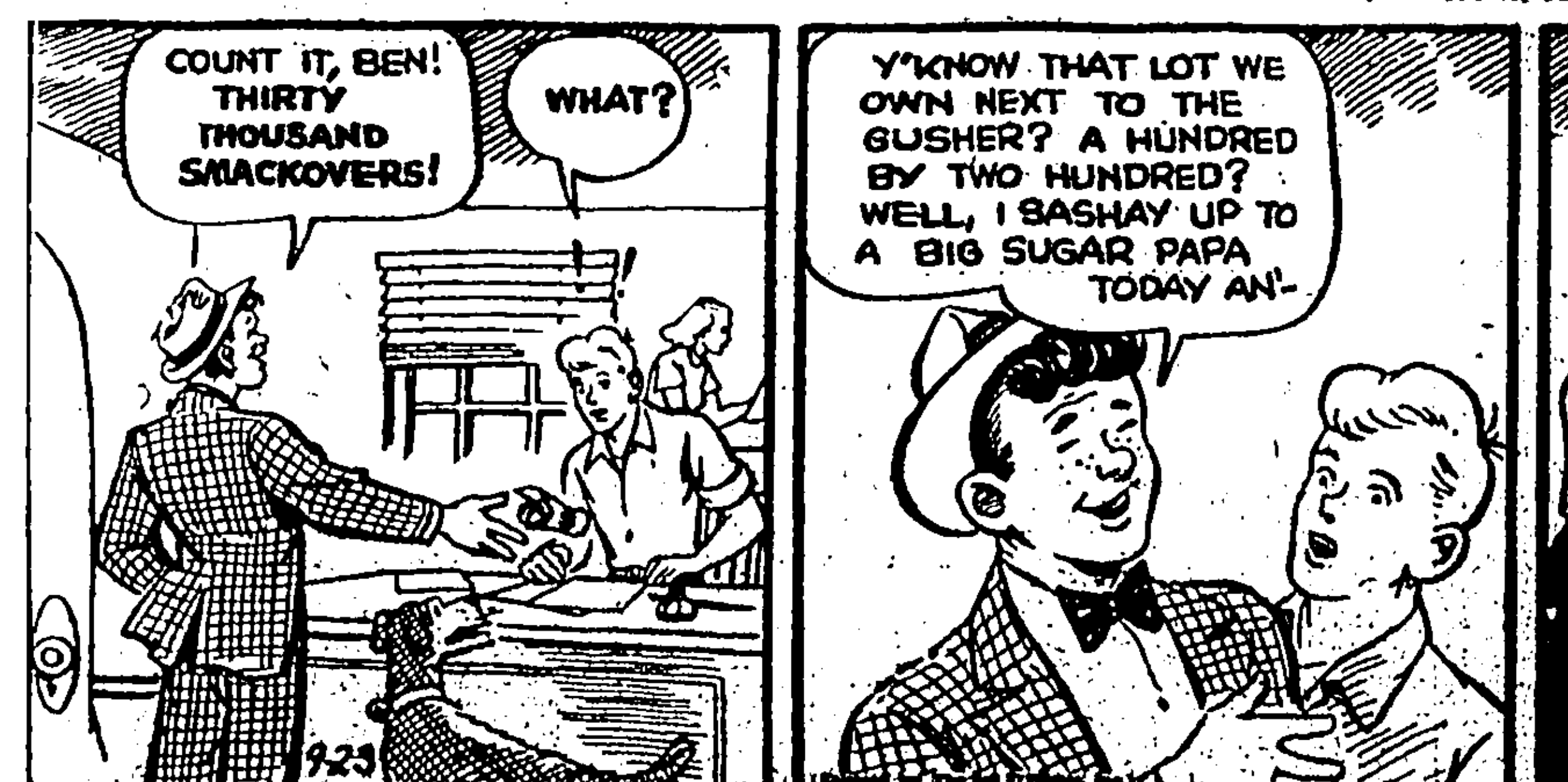
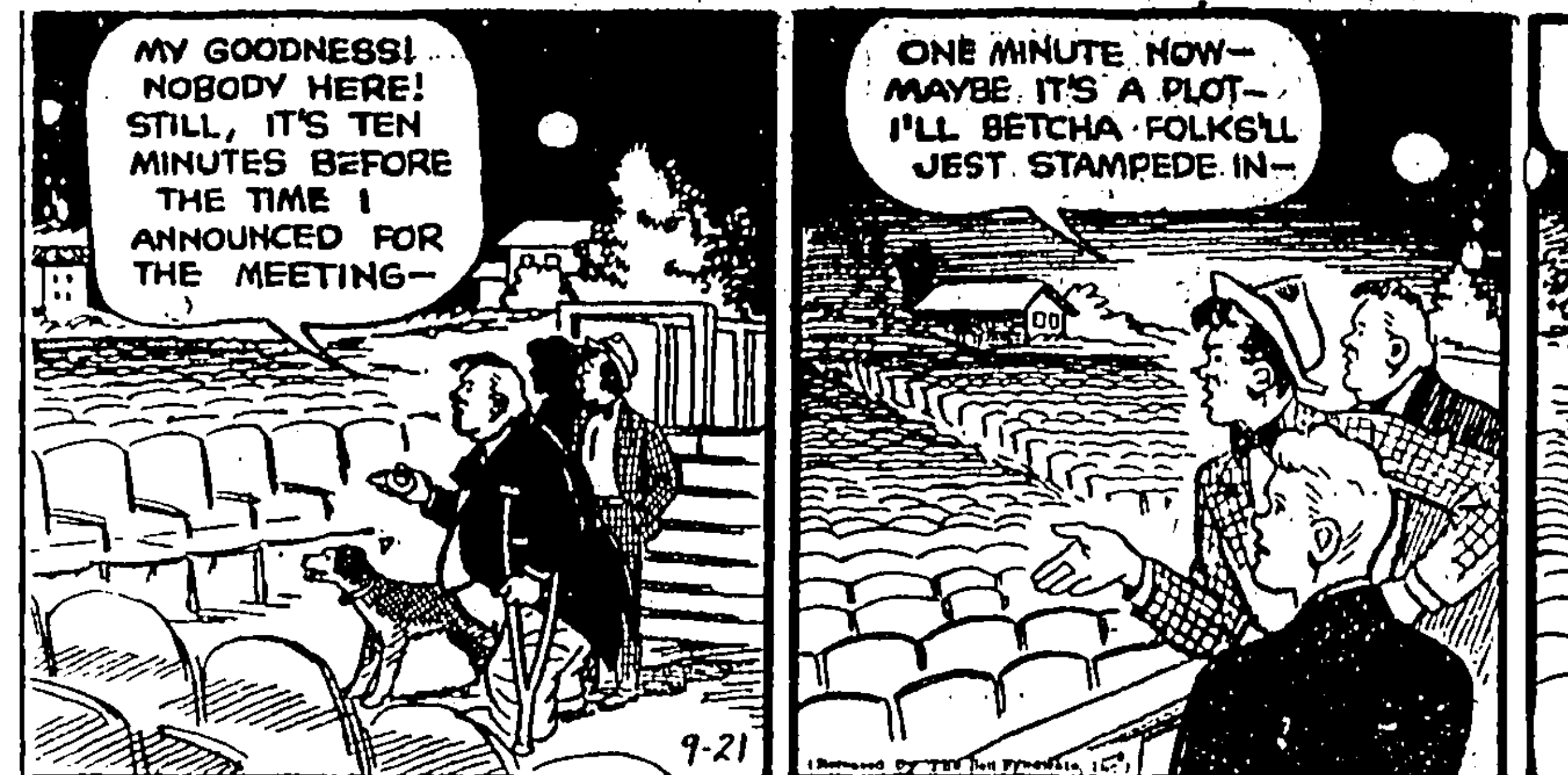
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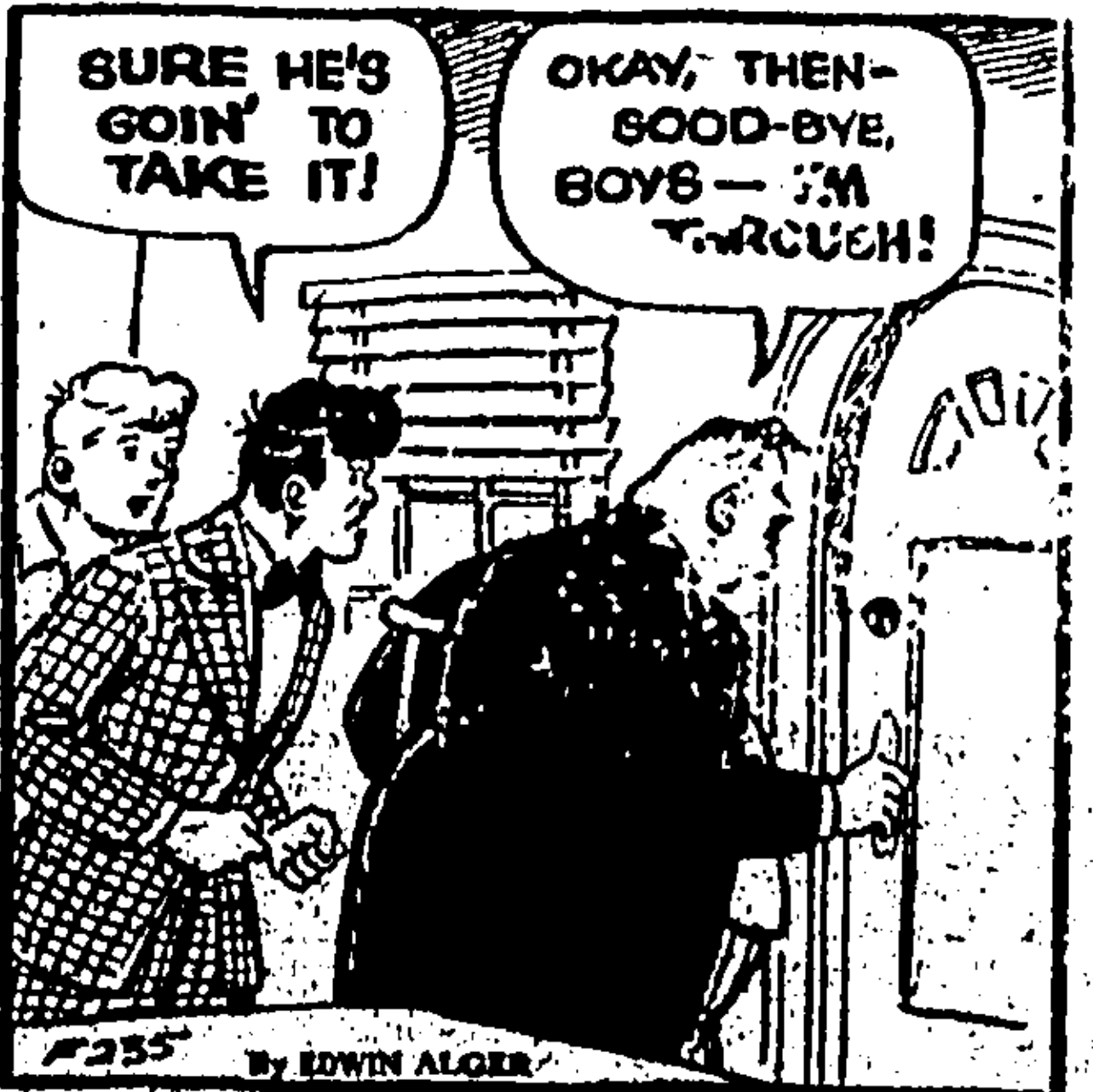
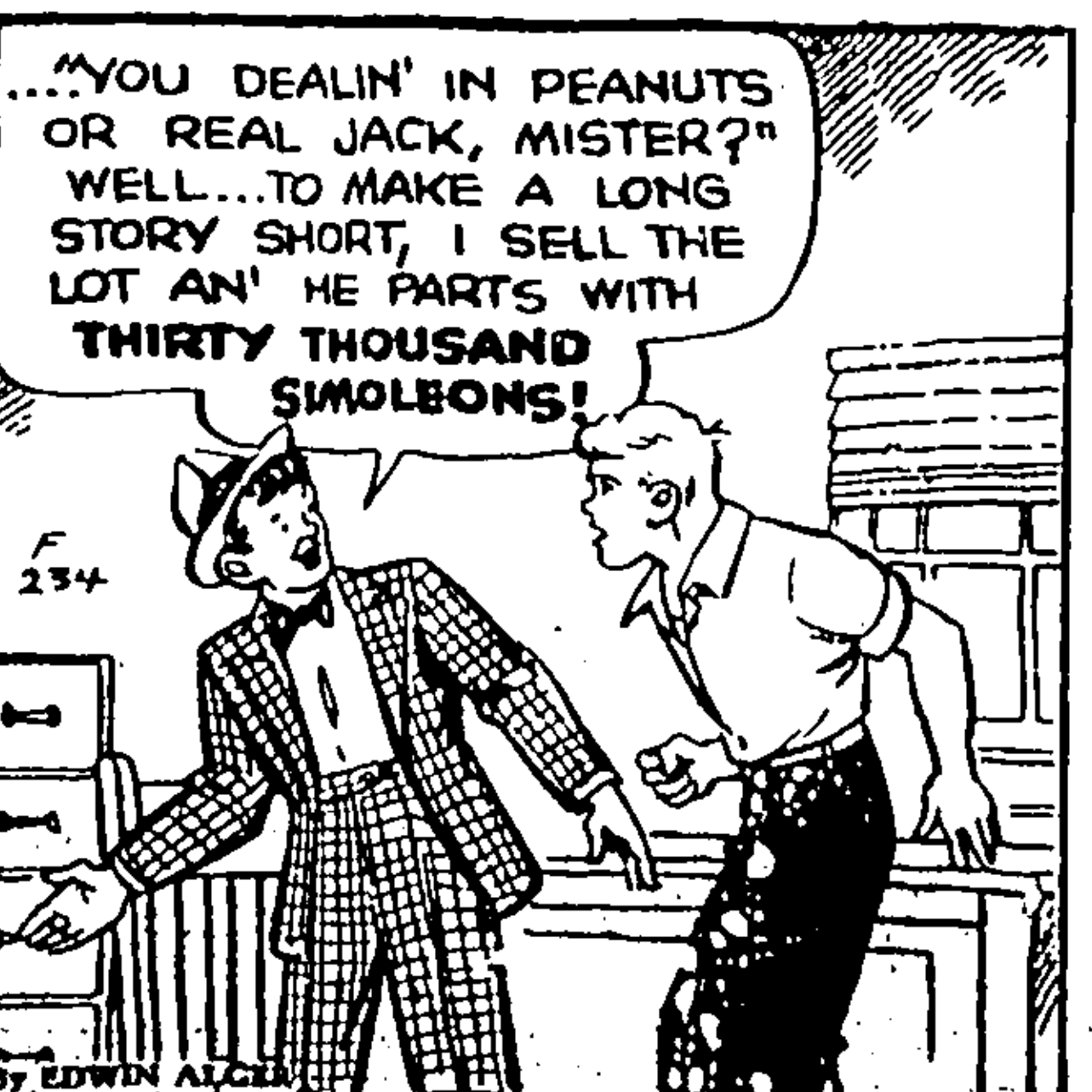
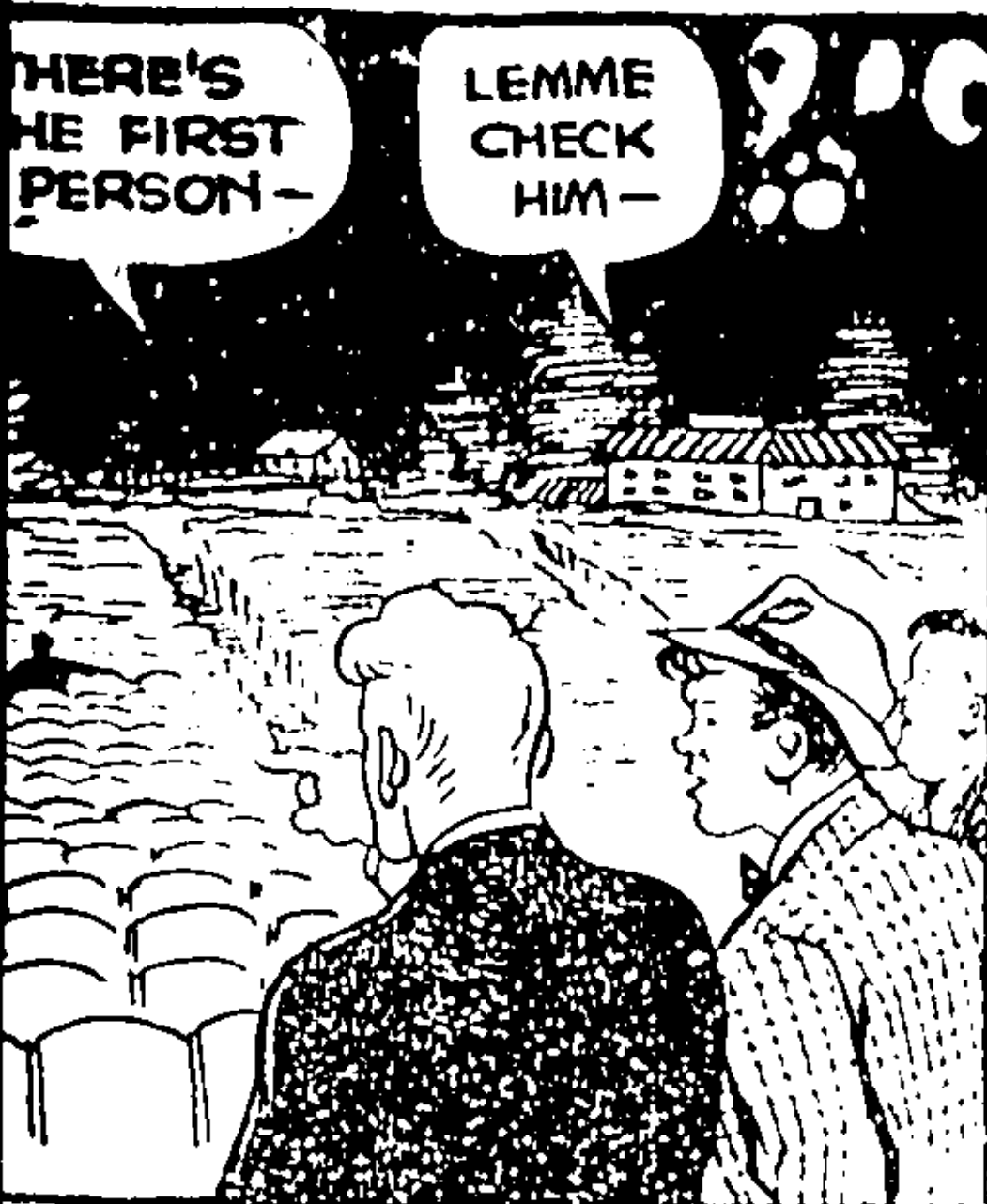
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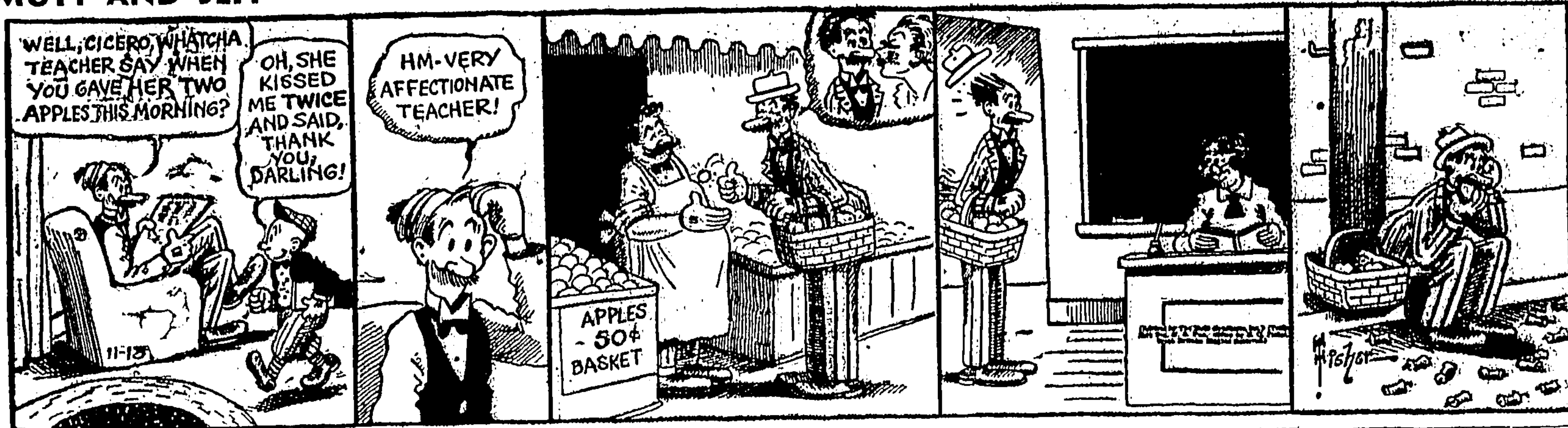
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By BUD FISHER

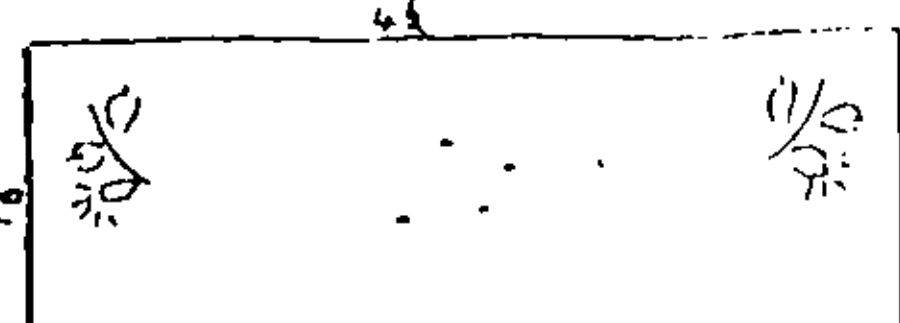
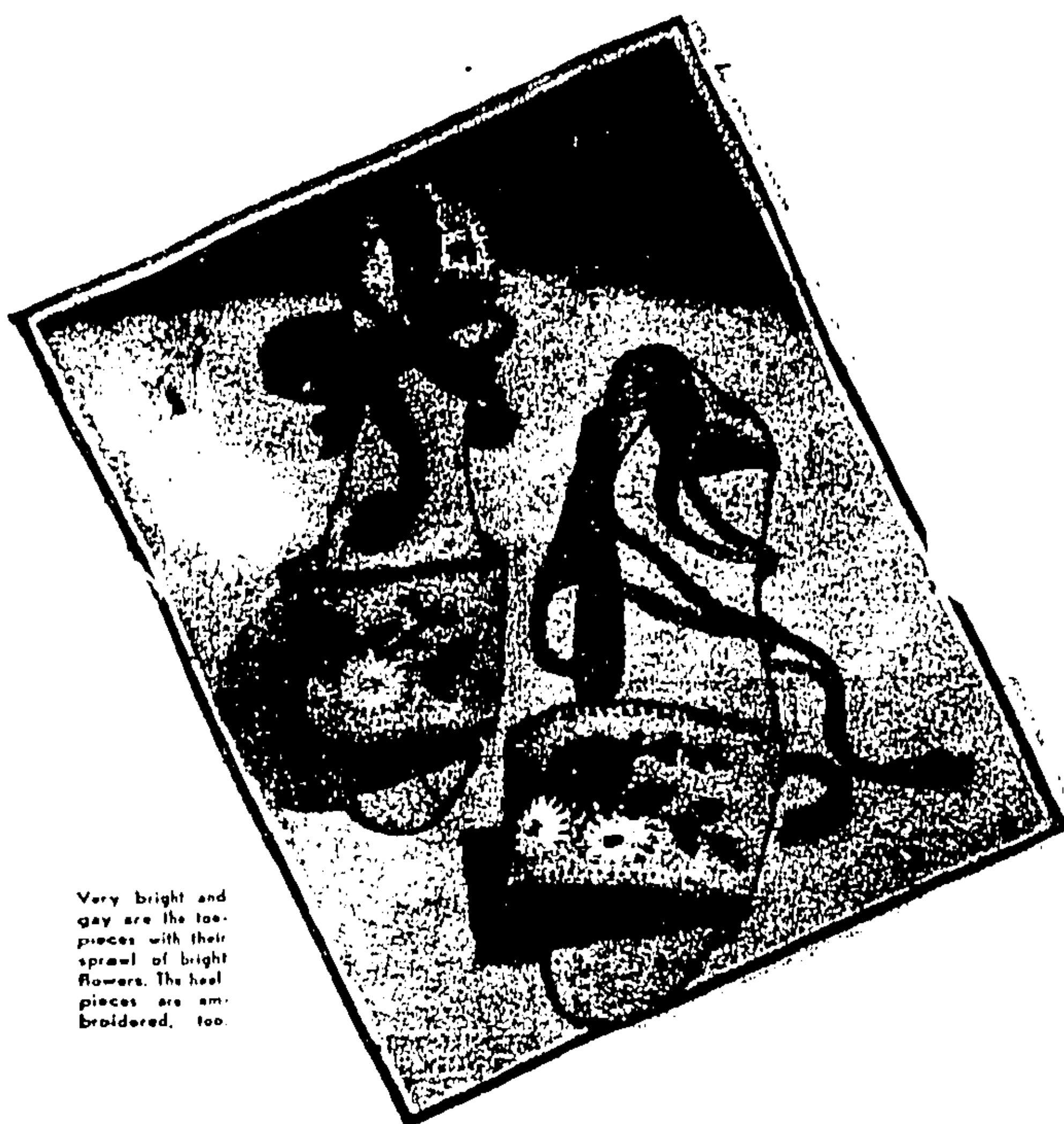
A PAGE FOR WOMEN
GOOD TWO SHOW

THESE bedroom slippers are ideal for holiday travelling, since they take up so little room in the suitcase. They are quickly made, too, with the help of the diagrams, which can easily be traced from the sizes given.

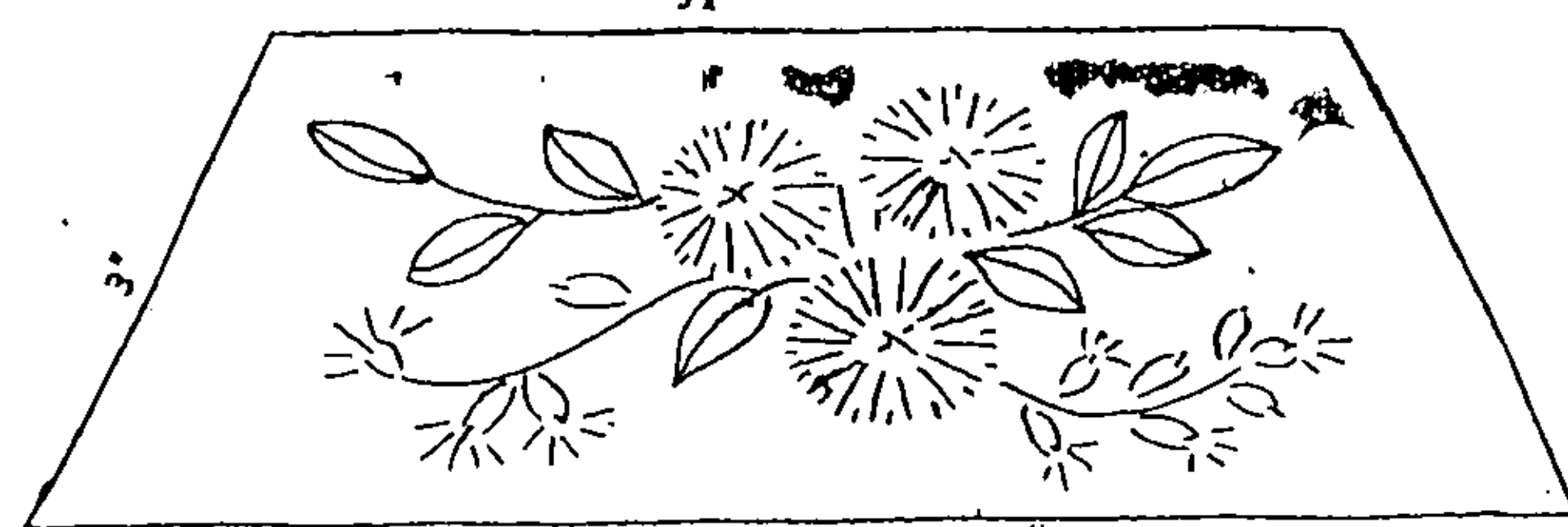
The design is a simple one, for which a transfer is unnecessary. You will also need a pair of slipper soles, in your own size, and a nine-inch square of coloured felt.

The model slippers were carried out in soft blue, embroidered with candy pink, green, white, bright blue, and purple; but, of course, you'll choose a felt and wools to harmonise with your dressing gown.

Now, with the diagrams before you, cut two pieces of felt, like the bigger sketch, for the two toe-pieces; then cut two smaller pieces for the heels. Draw the simple design shown on the diagram on to a sheet of transparent paper, then



transfer this to each toe-piece, by placing a piece of carbon paper under the tracing, with the shiny side facing the felt, and go over the outlines with a sharp point.



The diagram shows the design for the right toe-piece; reverse it for the left piece.

The flowers are done in stroke-stitch, one in white, one in pink, and one in blue; there are tiny single stitches in contrasting colours between each pair of stroke-stitch petals, cherry for the

white, purple for the blue, blue for the pink. Every flower has a black or yellow cross-stitch centre; the stalks are green stem-stitch, the bigger leaves are done in fish-bone-stitch, the smaller ones are daisy-loops. Stroke-stitch buds complete the embroidery.

The heel-pieces have a tiny

spray on each side, and they're done in green and pink. Blanket-stitch round each piece of felt with green wool, then sew the heel-pieces to the heel part of each slipper-sole, and the toe-pieces to the front part, using green wool for this, so that the stitches blend with the blanket-stitching and will not show. Lastly crochet two cords from the green wool, making them about 30 inches long; sew one along the top edge of each heel-piece, and tie the remainder round the ankle, with a bow over the instep.

If the toe-pieces don't fit your foot it would be quite easy to make them longer or shorter accordingly. Cut the shape in paper first of all, and try it against your foot, so as to make sure of not spoiling the felt by cutting it wrongly.

FRUIT PUNCHES AND FRUIT CUPS TO TEMPT YOU . . .

INSTEAD of adding sugar to the fruit cup, make a syrup of four cups sugar boiled for five minutes in two cups water after dissolving. This syrup can be bottled for future use. Bottled grape and grapefruit juice can be obtained when the fruit is not in season.

Barley Water

Wash barley very well, taking care to remove all the starch. It is a good idea to rub it well with the hands in the water in which it is washed. Allow 1 tablespoon barley to each quart boiling water and boil rapidly for 20 minutes, adding a few slices of lemon during the boiling. Allow to cool, add fruit juices and sugar to taste.

Fruit Punch

Make some China tea and measure 1 pint. Strain into a basin into which you have measured 1/2 lb. sugar; stir until sugar is dissolved. Allow it to become cold. Place a block of ice in punch bowl and strain over the tea 1 pint orange juice and 1/2 pint lemon juice. Add 4 tablespoons maraschino, 2 pints ginger ale, 2 pints soda-water, and 1 pint lemonade. Decorate punch bowl

with thin slices of orange and fresh sprigs of mint.

Orange Milk Shake

Mix together 3 cups orange juice, 2 cups grapefruit juice, 1 cup water in which 1/4 cup castor sugar has been dissolved, a pinch salt, and, if liked, a few drops almond essence. Lastly add 1 1/2 cups evaporated milk and 2 cups ice, broken into very small pieces. Place into a large jar and mix well. This is a delicious drink.

Ginger Punch

Boil for 20 minutes 1 quart water, 1 cup sugar, and 1/2 cup ginger syrup. Allow to become quite cold, then add the following: One cup orange juice, 1/2 cup lemon juice, 1/2 cup finely-chopped preserved ginger (optional), 1 bottle lemonade, and 2 pints soda-water.

Claret Punch

Place 1/2 packet raisins in a saucepan with 1 quart water and boil for 20 minutes. Remove raisins and add 2 cups sugar, the thinly-peeled rind of 1 lemon, and about 3 inch-stick cinnamon. (Do not use ground cinnamon.) Boil for another 5 or 6 minutes. Cool a

little, then add 2 cups orange juice, 1/2 cup lemon juice, and 1/2 cup grapefruit juice. Cool thoroughly, then strain over ice with 1 pint bottle claret.

Grape-Juice Punch

To each bottle grape juice add 4 tablespoons sugar, half cup lime juice, one pint bottle lemonade, and two pints soda-water. Serve thoroughly cold.

Pineapple Cup

Mix together 4 cups cold strained tea, the juice of 6 oranges and 6 lemons. Boil together 1 medium grated pineapple, 4 level cups sugar, 8 cups water for 20 minutes. Allow to cool, then add fruit juices, tea, etc. Decorate with slices of fruit.

Fruit Cup

Mix together 2 pints cider, the juice of 2 lemons, 2 oranges, and 2 cups pineapple juice. Stir in 2 pints grape juice and 1 cup sugar; allow to stand for about 1 hour. Now add 3 or 4 sliced oranges, 1 sliced apple, 2 or 3 slices lemon, 1 sliced banana, a few maraschino cherries or straw berries, and 2 or 3 passionfruit. Add a piece of ice and serve cold.

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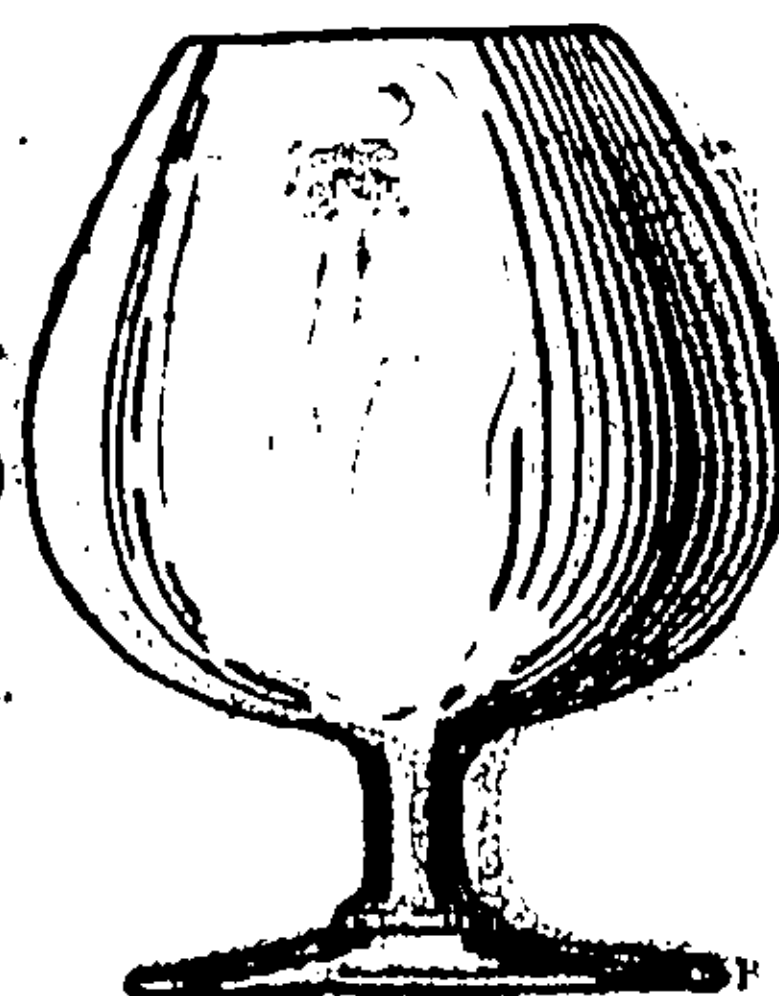
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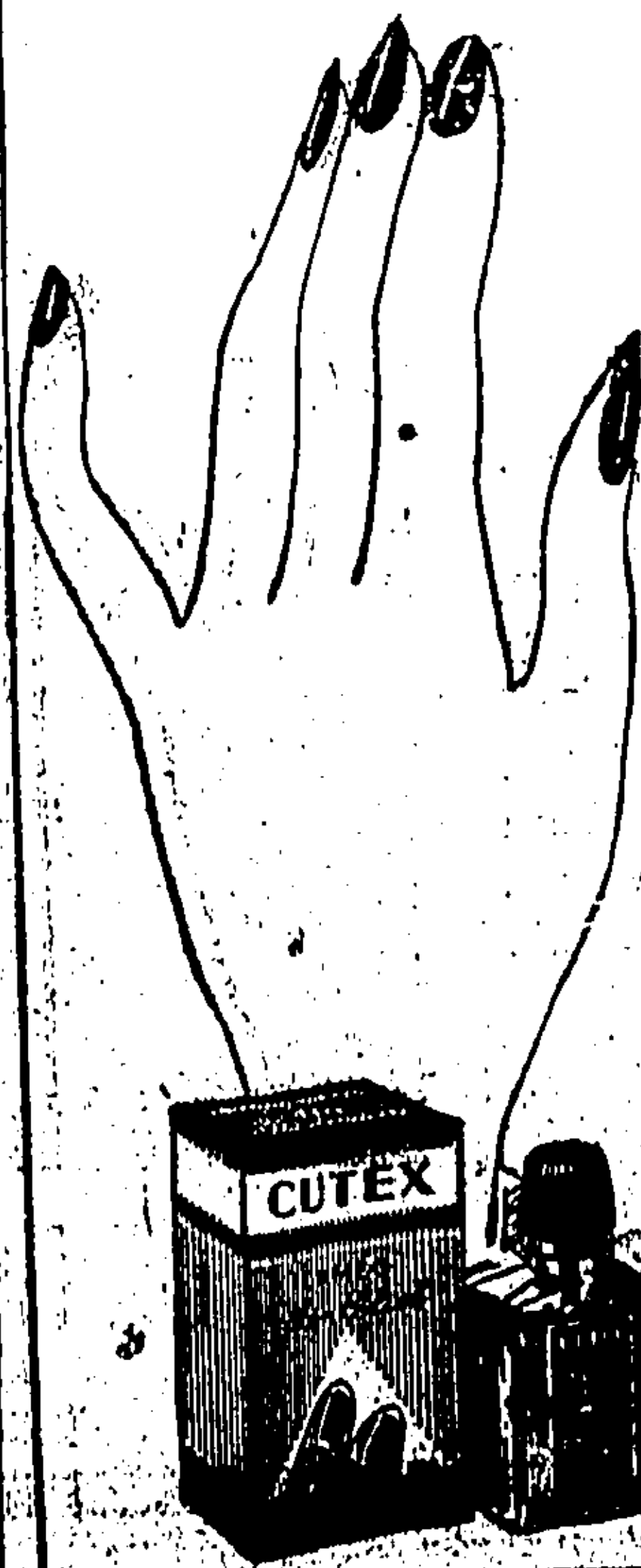
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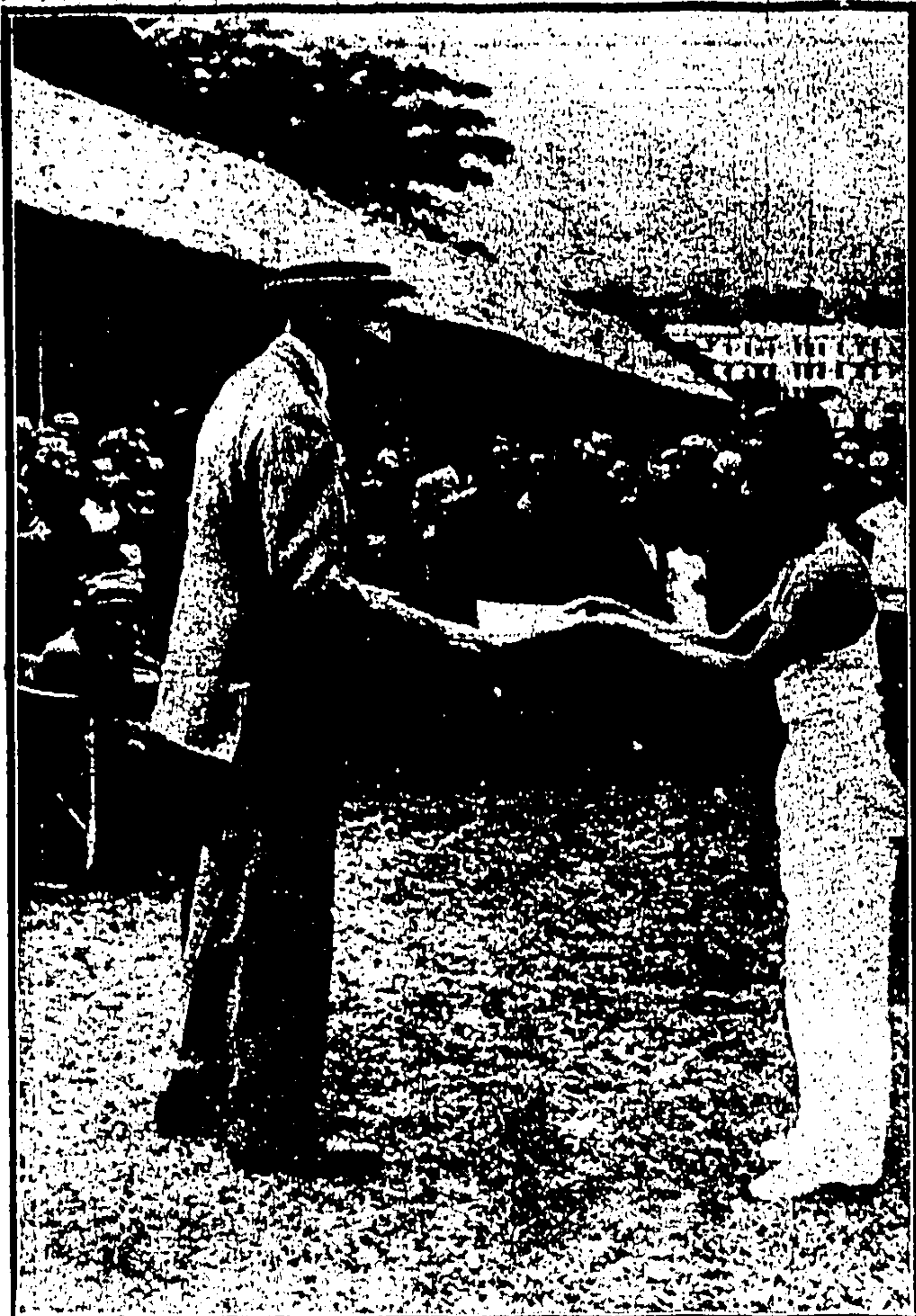
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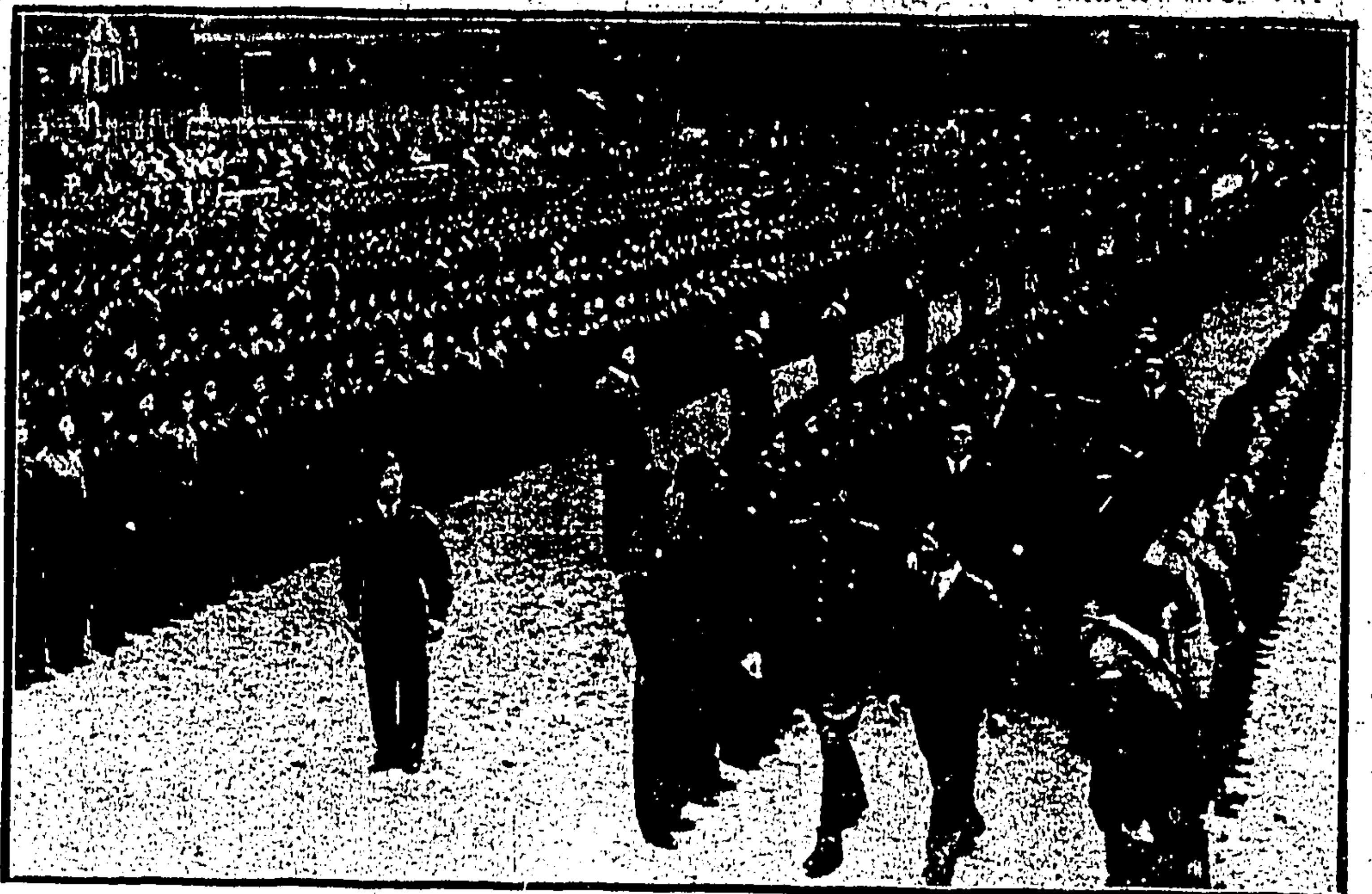
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Preparations

A.R.P. Parade



His Excellency the Acting Governor presenting a certificate to the trainer of the Chung Wah Boys' School at the physical training display.



His Excellency the Acting Governor inspecting the impressive parade of the Colony's A.R.P. personnel last Saturday.



A close-up of the Acting Governor inspecting the A.R.P. parade.



Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club, presenting the prize to the Sai Ying-poon Boys' Club.

A THRIFTY WAY to GUARD YOUR FAMILY'S TEETH

Here's good news for mothers! The best dentifrice you can buy costs less to use. And here is the reason. You use only half as much Kolynos. It lasts twice as long. A half-inch on a **dry** brush is enough.

- Kolynos cleans and polishes the teeth in a way that is unbelievable. It kills dangerous germs that cause decay and leaves the teeth bright and sparkling. So if you want to save money and have your family use the best—buy Kolynos. It cleans **better, quicker** and is **safe** to use.

For further **ECONOMY**
BUY the **LARGE TUBE**



KOLYNOS
the economical
DENTAL CREAM



The small representative of Wanchai Girls' Club receiving their prize from Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club on Christmas Gift Day.

GOERING'S NEST EGG

BIG JEWEL PURCHASES IN LONDON

(By A Special Correspondent)

A LONDON diamond merchant of the highest standing has given me the following astonishing facts concerning the treasure hoardings of Nazi chiefs against the day of defeat and flight.

Twelve months ago — just after the war began — Marshal Goering bought in London a pearl necklace worth £25,000. It is now safely locked up in the vaults of an Italian bank.

Shortly afterwards he bought an emerald and diamond "suite" consisting of a necklace, earrings and brooch valued at £100,000. That suite is safe in Italy.

These deals were made through Hatton-garden, centre of London's jewellery trade. My informant, who is one of the greatest connoisseurs in precious stones, estimates that the total value of the jewels deposited in Italy or in neutral countries by Goering amounts to something between £500,000 and £1,000,000.

"Off The Market"

These jewels all "went off the market" in the same period — about a year ago. At the time the name of the purchaser was a mystery. It has since been established that he was Hermann Goering.

Hundreds of thousands of pounds' worth of the finest jewellery were despatched from London to destinations abroad, chiefly to Italy, America and South America, just before, and after the outbreak of war.

With the restrictions on exchange, how did Goering's jewels get to Italy? The theory is that the order was placed with a retail jeweller in Italy. The retailer transmitted his order to London. The jewels were shipped from London to America, from America to another neutral country, and thence to the bank in Italy where they are now in safe keeping.

Prefers Furs

These jewels will always have a market. They are the Nazi chief's insurance policy against disaster.

While Goering prefers jewels Goebbels likes furs. A year or so ago he bought tens of thousands of pounds' worth of furs in London — from a Jew!

I am assured that some of the finest furs obtainable in Britain mink, silver fox, sable, ermine, all in the £1,000-a-time class, are now keeping the future of Herr Goebbels warm.

Hitler satisfied his last artistic demands on London by investing in pictures and tapestries. Ribbentrop is the only one who does not appear to have been a customer of our luxury trades.

Where the Nazis could not secure their next egg by legitimate means before the war, they grabbed it by force afterwards.

On the day the Germans entered Amsterdam, centre of the Continental diamond industry, they visited the head office of Louis Asscher, the most famous diamond cutter in the world. Louis Asscher was there with his two sons.

"Where are your diamonds?" demanded the Nazis.

"I sent them all to America," said Mr. Asscher. "There is nothing here."

The German shot all three of the Asschers out of hand.

DAVY JONES'S BOOT LOCKER

For stealing a pair of boots from near where a bomb had fallen, David Jones, fifty-two, a homeless labourer, was at Old Street, London, sentenced to six months' hard labour.

Detective Landsell told the Court:

"This man says he was too drunk to remember what he was doing, but he took the boots from a pile of boots and shoes of all sorts of colours, shapes and sizes, and was sober enough to pick out a pair of his own size."

PAID TO LIVE AT OFFICE

Staffs of Government departments who sleep at the office are to receive a meal allowance of three shillings a night. Canteens are also to be provided.

A circular contained suggestions which have been agreed to by the staff representatives.

Office shelters are to be equipped with tiered bunks. There will be a rota system of long and short day attendances.

It is hoped that departments will manage with a nucleus staff on Sundays. Where this is impracticable one other day off in seven is to be allowed.

Officers who can work at home are to be allowed to do so for one or two days a week.

M.P. SAYS 'TELL THE WORLD'

Major J. Milner (Lab., Leeds, S.E.) is to ask the Minister of Information whether he will publish, for the information of world opinion, a list or catalogue of non-military objectives bombed in London, up to the latest date considered desirable.

Ice Cubes!

Ever been rushed for ice cubes at a party or your bathing shed? Buy a packet of Dairy Farm Ice Cubes and you'll find your problems solved. Crystal clear, and generously sized, they won't spoil your drinks or give them an "off taste."

25 cents per packet
of 48 cubes

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1941



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PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 30th day of Dec., 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Castle Peak, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
1	Ping Shan Inland Lot No. 6.	Castle Peak.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan	About 18,000	\$82 \$900

M.V. "HOEGH" TRANSPORTER

On instructions from the Underwriters, Tenders are invited for the Single Screw Motor Vessel "HOEGH TRANSPORTER" as she lies submerged in her damaged condition in Singapore Roads.

The vessel is of the Shelter Deck type designed for a carrying capacity of 9,000 tons and fitted with Diesel Machinery.

A large part of the cargo has been removed from the vessel.

Tenders should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 31st December 1940, who will supply any further information available.

The highest, or any, tender may not necessarily be accepted.

RITCHIE & Bisset,
UNION BUILDING,
SINGAPORE

BRIDGE NOTES

Bridge Swindles — No. 19

By The Four Aces

West knew that South was a fine player and that he would make his contract by an end play unless he could be sidetracked:

South, Dealer
Neither side vulnerable

♠ Q J 10	N	♠ 7 5 2
♥ 9 6	W	♥ J 8 5 2
♦ Q 9	E	♦ 8 7
♣ K J 9 6	S	♣ Q 7 6 2
♣ 4 3		

♠ A K 8
♥ A 10 4
♦ A Q 10 4
♣ K 10 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the Queen of spades, South winning with the King. Declarer cashed the club King and led the club ten, finessing to East's Queen. South won the spade return with the spade Ace and led a club towards dummy.

West could place all the high cards from the bidding and correctly assumed that South's plan was to cash the clubs and the two high hearts and then lead a spade to force a diamond lead up to the Ace-Queen. The only danger, for South, was that West might be able to blank the King of diamonds and win four instead of three tricks at the end. And West's only chance of heading off South was to make South think the diamond King had been blanked.

On the third round of clubs, therefore, West discarded the five of diamonds; and on dummy's last club West blandly dropped the Jack of diamonds. Now South looked worried. Had West blanked his King of diamonds? If so, correct play was to play the diamond Ace rather than throw West in with a spade. Or was West just pretending? If so, the end-play would work after all.

As it happened, South guessed wrong, by playing for the King of diamonds to drop. So West's

swindle sidetracked a successful play in favour of an unsuccessful one.

Yesterday you were Merwin D. Maier's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you held:

♠ Q 9 3 2
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ 7 4 3

The bidding:

Maier	Jacoby	You	Schlenker
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
1♥	Pass	(?)	Pass

ANSWER: Bid one spade. The suit is not a good one, but there is a faint chance that partner has good spade support. Also, this is the cheapest bid you can make—an important consideration since your hand is so weak. Score 100% for one spade; 50% for one no-trump; 30% for two clubs.

Question No. 599

To-day you are Howard Schenker's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you hold:

♠ K J 9
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 6 5 3
♣ Q 4 8

The bidding:

Schlenker	Maier	You	Jacoby
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
1♥	Pass	(?)	Pass

What do you bid? (Answer

Ti-morrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



friend thinks her beau has lost his sense of honesty when he announces he thinks he'll ruelle a couple of theatre tickets.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"I see you're doing your Christmas Snooping early!"

Here's Luck

EWOW BEER

Tel. 30311.



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HONG KONG HOTEL

DINNER DANCE

With Nick Korta & His Swing Band

NIGHTLY 9 P.M. TILL 1 A.M.
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TEA DANCE

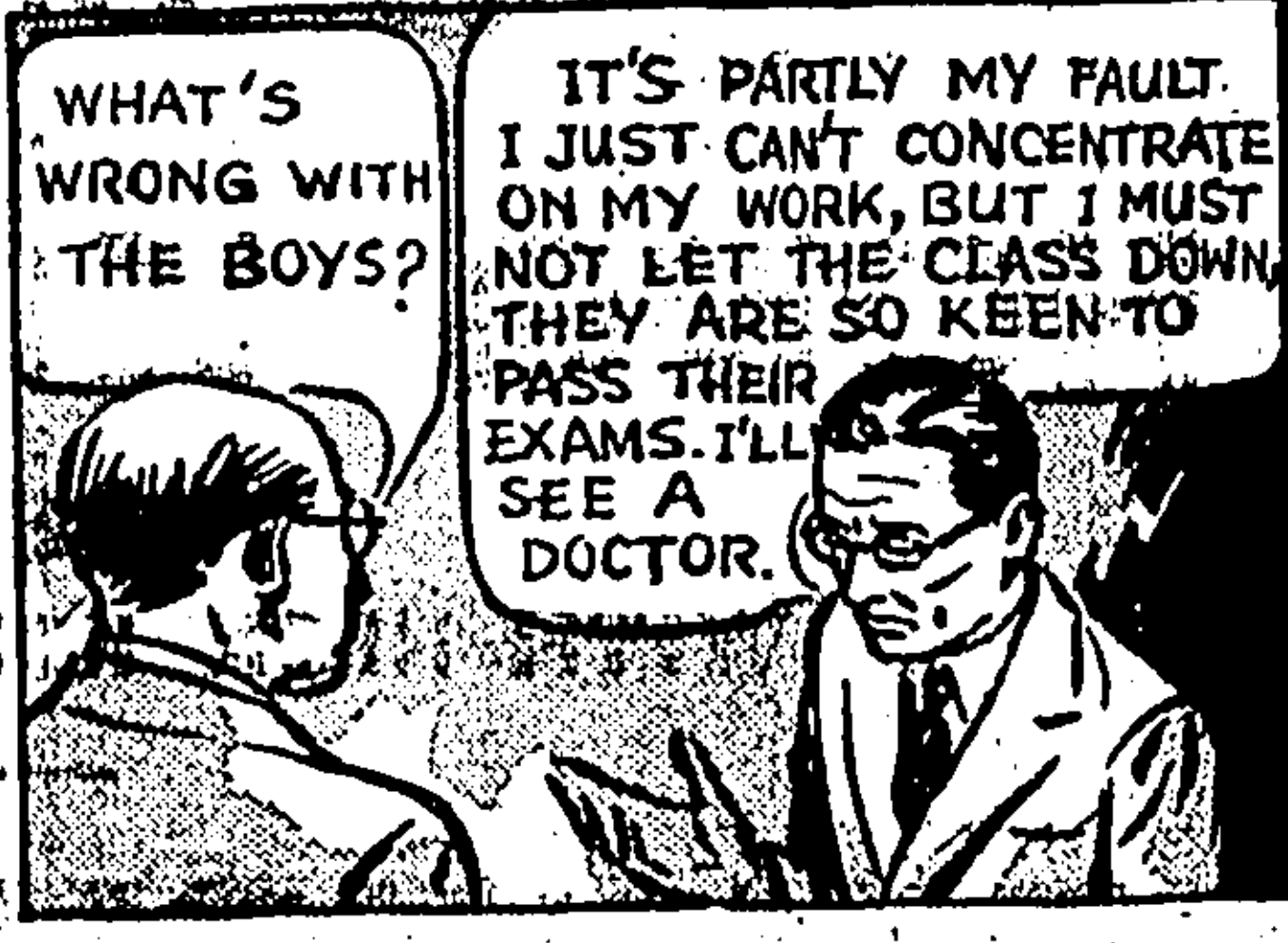
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SCHOOL TEACHER NEARLY FAILS HIS CLASS

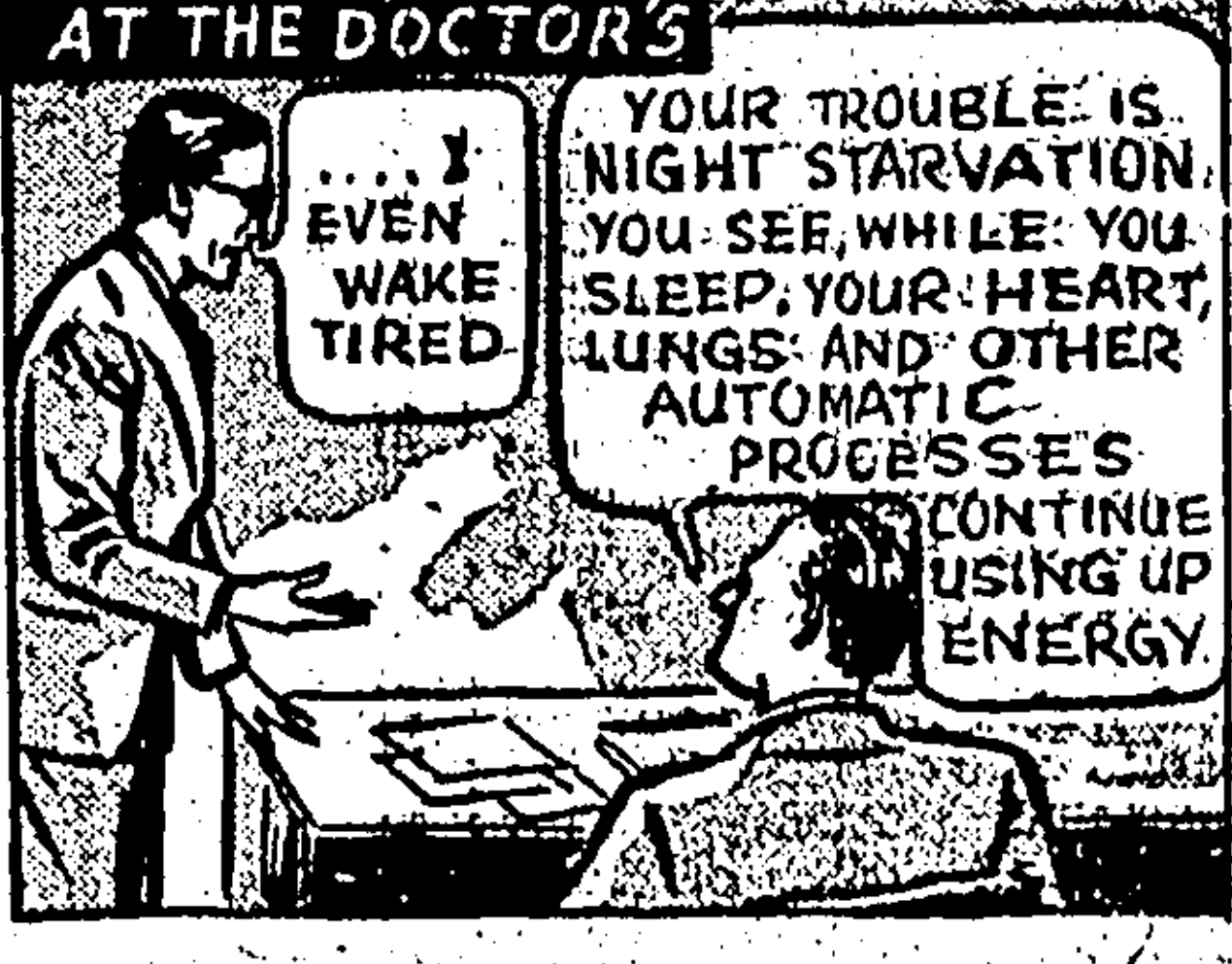


(THINKS)
THE BOYS WILL NEED
A LOT MORE COACH-
ING IF THEY ARE TO
PASS THEIR SENIOR
CAMBRIDGE NEXT
TERM.



WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
THE BOYS?

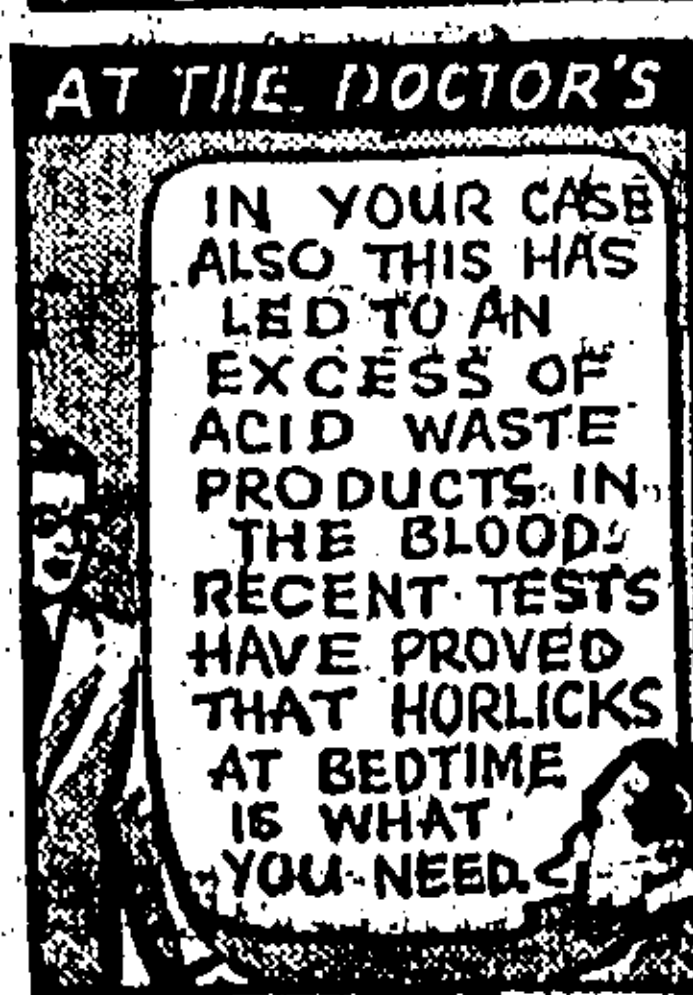
IT'S PARTLY MY FAULT.
I JUST CAN'T CONCENTRATE
ON MY WORK, BUT I MUST
NOT LET THE CLASS DOWN.
THEY ARE SO KEEN TO
PASS THEIR
EXAMS. I'LL
SEE A
DOCTOR.



AT THE DOCTOR'S

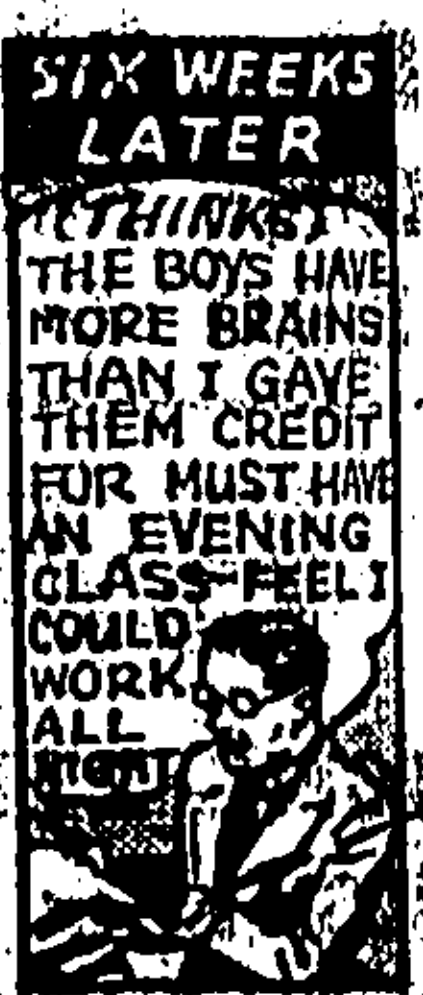
... I
EVEN
WAKE
TIRED

YOUR TROUBLE IS
NIGHT STARVATION.
YOU SEE, WHILE YOU
SLEEP, YOUR HEART,
LUNGS, AND OTHER
AUTOMATIC
PROCESSES
CONTINUE
USING UP
ENERGY.



AT THE DOCTOR'S

IN YOUR CASE
ALSO THIS HAS
LED TO AN
EXCESS OF
ACID WASTE
PRODUCTS IN
THE BLOOD.
RECENT TESTS
HAVE PROVED
THAT HORLICKS
AT BEDTIME
IS WHAT
YOU NEED.



SIX WEEKS
LATER

(THINKS)
THE BOYS HAVE
MORE BRAINS
THAN I GAVE
THEM CREDIT
FOR. MUST HAVE
AN EVENING
GLASS-FEELI
COULD
WORK
ALL
NIGHT.



WELL DONE BOYS—WE
HAVE NEVER HAD SO
MANY PASSES IN THE
SENIOR CAMBRIDGE.

(THINKS)
HORLICKS IS
THE SECRET.

THANKS TO
YOUR GOOD
COACHING SIR.

DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS USE HORLICKS IN HOSPITAL TESTS

RECENTLY tests were made in a great hospital on men and women who complained of always feeling tired.

It was found that these people had an excess of acid waste products in their blood during sleep.

This acid waste kept the brain and nerves on edge all night even though the rest of the body was sound asleep.

But when Horlicks was given to these people last thing at night, this excess acid waste was completely neutralised. They woke refreshed, with increased energy and vitality.

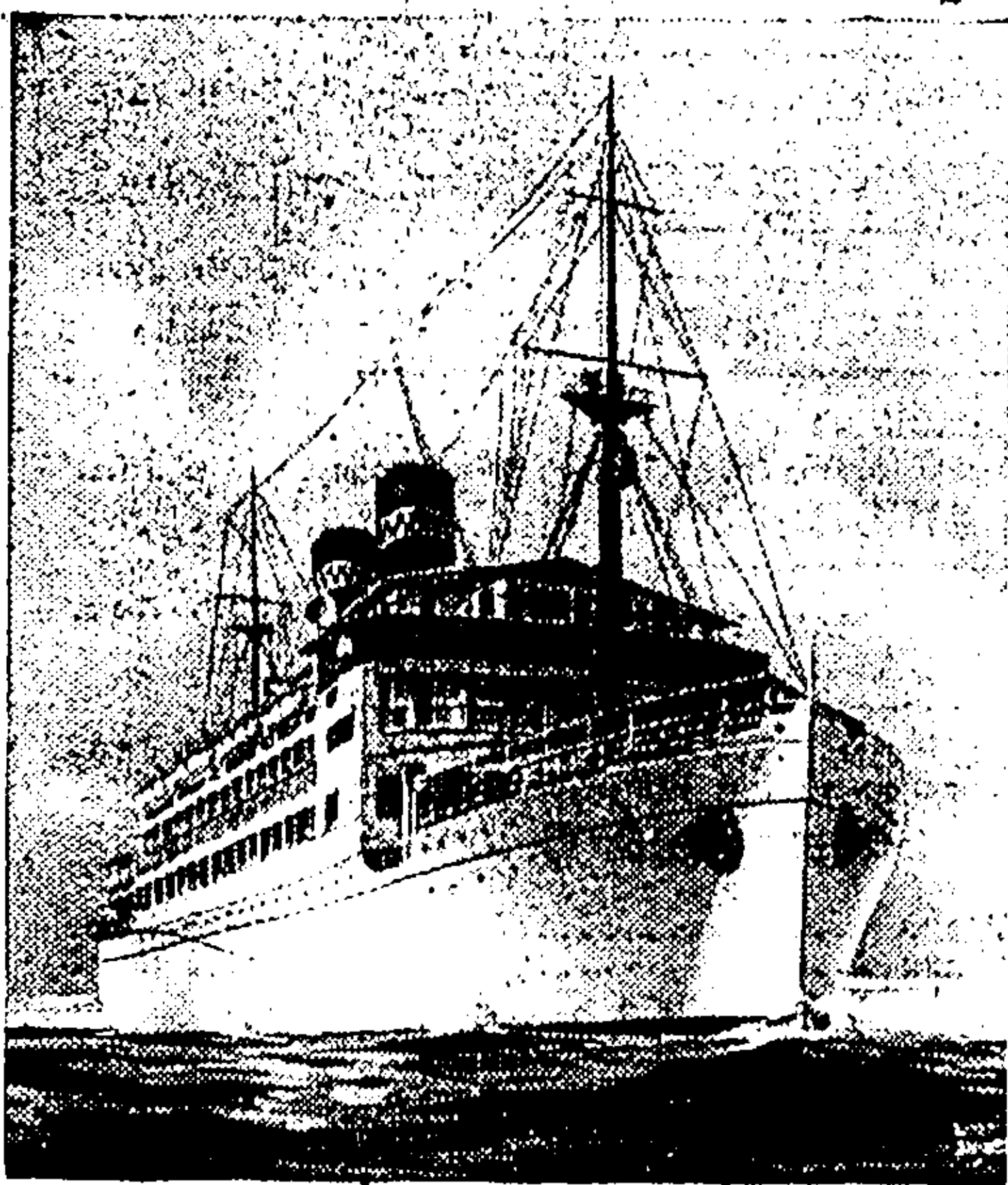
DO YOU FEEL WORN OUT, DEPRESSED, OR NERVOUS? DO YOU EVEN AWAKE TIRED?

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THEN YOU WILL
SLEEP SOUNDLY—
WAKE REFRESHED
AND HAVE EXTRA
ENERGY ALL DAY

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Amazed at the splendours of the Palace of Luxury in Maurice Maeterlinck's "The Blue Bird" are Gale Sondergaard, Eddie Collins, Shirley Temple and Johnny Russell. This 20th Century-Fox Technicolor production is showing at the King's Theatre.

Firm Flesh Turns To Fat

When Food Tract is Constipated.

A cause of unhealthy fat is often a congested food tract. Absorbing the fermenting waste into your system will create the fate of ill-health. These digestive poisons account for the sick headaches, bilious attacks, flatulence, skin blotches and bad breath to which over-weight women and men are subject.

For constipation you should take Pinkettes. These little laxative pills are absolutely harmless. They effectively disperse the waste matter, keep the food tract clean and active, and painlessly exercise and strengthen the lazy bowels. Keep free from constipation and liver troubles by taking Pinkettes, and you will keep free from the unpleasant, distressing symptoms and ungainly fat. Get Pinkettes to-day. Obtainable at all chemists.

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CAN AFFORD TO BUY
THROUGH

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PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

SATURDAY, 28th December, 1940
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at their Sales Room,
No. 35, Hankow Road, Kowloon.

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also
A QUANTITY OF BLACKWOOD
FURNITURE

On View from Friday, the 27th December, 1940.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.

Hong Kong, 26th Dec., 1940.

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

MONDAY, 30th December, 1940
commencing at 10.30 a.m.
at No. 12, Kennedy Terrace,
2nd Floor.

A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

On View from Sunday, the 29th December, 1940.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.

LAMMERT BROS.,
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Hong Kong, 26th Dec., 1940.

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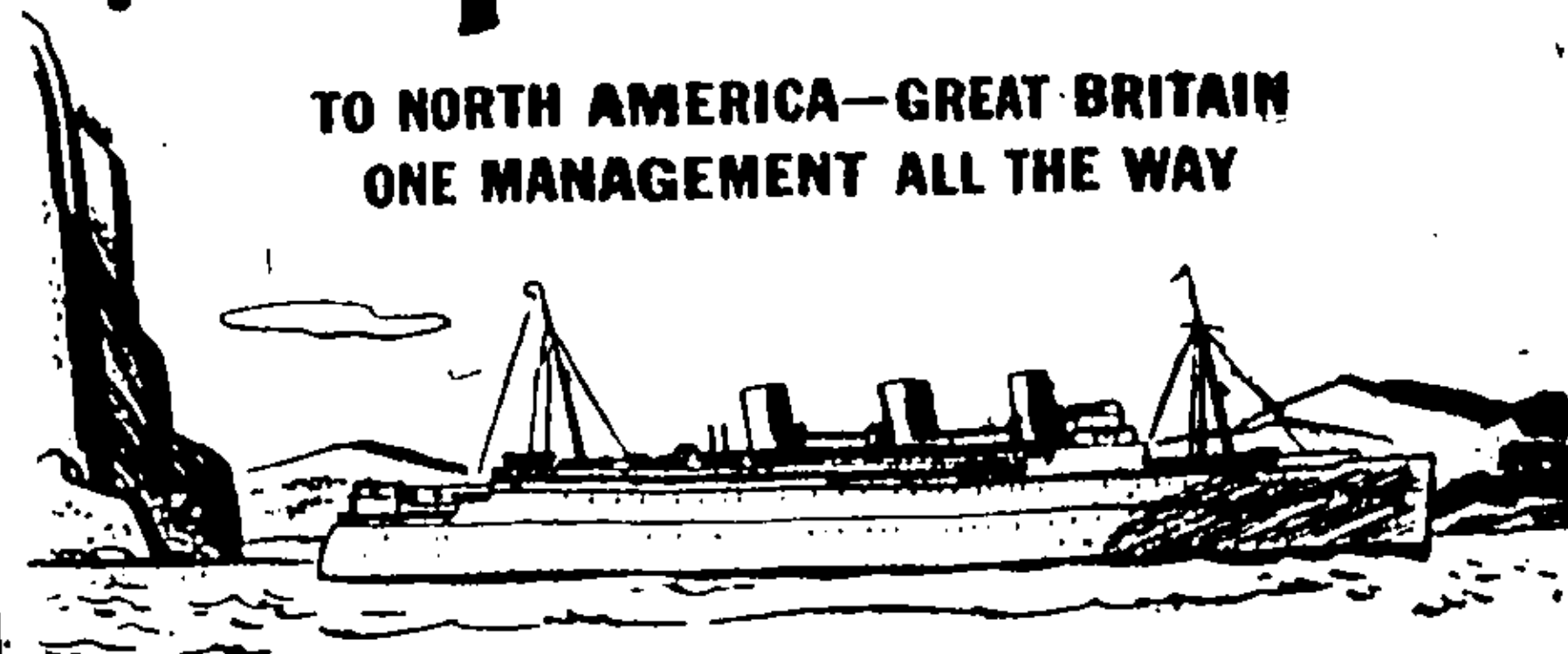
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TO NORTH AMERICA—GREAT BRITAIN
ONE MANAGEMENT ALL THE WAY



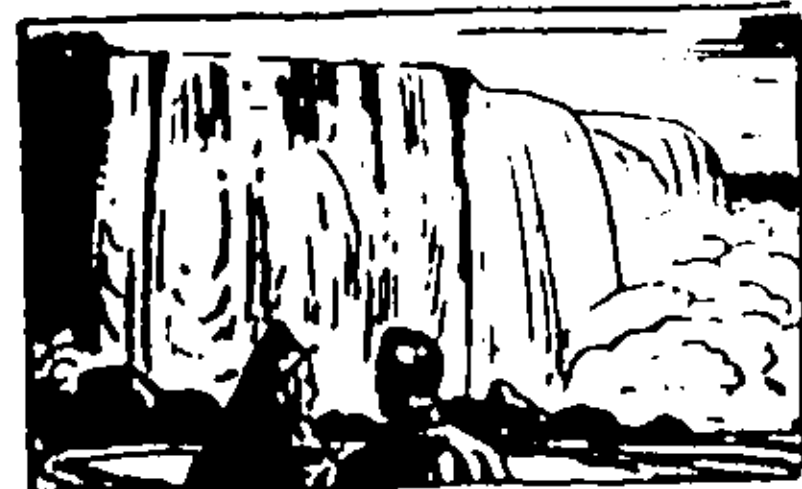
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S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT January 17

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S.S. PRESIDENT TYLER January 9
S.S. PRESIDENT MONROE February 9

TO MANILA

S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE December 28
S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT January 10
S.S. PRESIDENT CLEVELAND January 24

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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

FRIDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.
London and Straits

SATURDAY

Swatow

SUNDAY

Canton
Sandakan

MONDAY

Calcutta, Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore.

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 24th December

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

FRIDAY

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways," K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom).

K.P.O.
Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."

K.P.O.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.
Straits, Rangoon, and Calcutta.
Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Letters 7.00 p.m.

SATURDAY

Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.

SUNDAY

Canton Noon.

• Subscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.

12.28 p.m.—Mozart—Concerto in D Major ("Coronation").

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Weather Report.

1.03 p.m.—Dance Music by Carroll Gibbons and Orchestras.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 p.m.—Dance Music.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—Latest Variety.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—Band Music.

8.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Under the Crooked Cross"—A Feature Programme.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talks: "Books and People."

9.45 p.m.—Russian Programme.

10.00 p.m.—Naval Band—March for Piano.

10.20 p.m.—César Franck—Symphony in D Minor.

11.00 p.m.—Close down.



SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu.

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.
Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.

SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Helan Maru Saturday, 25th Jan.

SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo &

San Francisco.

*Akagi Maru (starts from Kobe) Wednesday, 15th Jan.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila

Atuta Maru Monday, 30th Dec.

HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS

*Hakodate Maru Friday, 10th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)

BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo

Kasima Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.
*Matue Maru Tuesday, 31st Dec.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore

*"Matumoto Maru" Tuesday, 31st Dec.
*Genoa Maru Sunday, 12th Jan.

KOBE & YOKOHAMA

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.
Kamo Maru Wednesday, 22nd Jan.

Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.

* Cargo only.

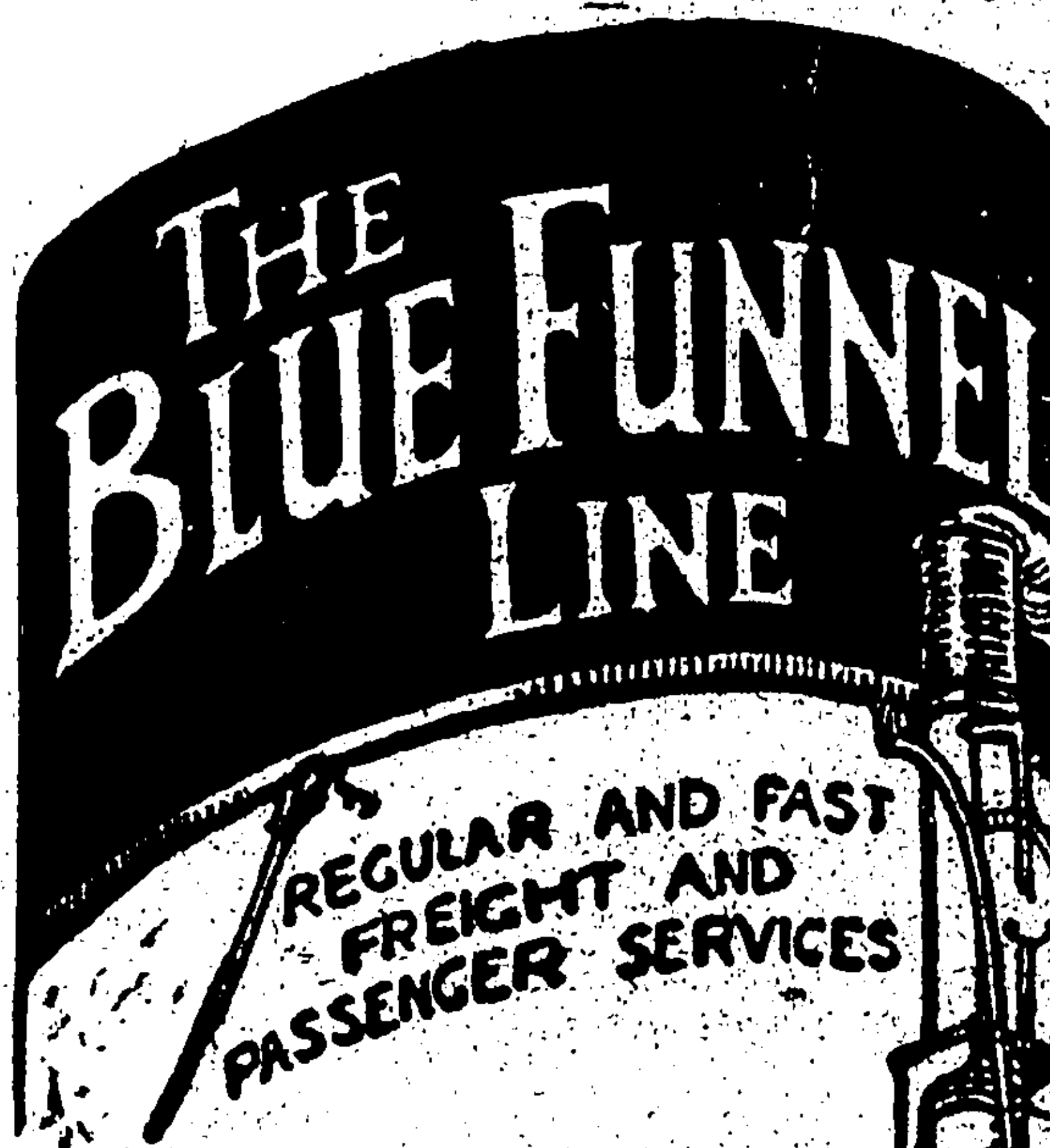
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Richardson Scores Century Before Lunch; Fine Knock Spate Of Runs In Game Between Club, Wanderers

HULSE'S FINE FORM

The annual Married v Singles cricket match, played at Craigengower Cricket Club yesterday, was featured by the brilliant all-round form of A. J. Hulse, who took 4 for 39, including the hat-trick, for the bachelors and then went on to score 74 not out and thus play a big part in the defeat of the Benedicts by nine wickets.

The Married men had first lease of the wicket but their batting was inconsistent and they were all out for 131. Lock was top-scorer with 27, scored out of 55, and Youngsaye, Joe Leonard and A. R. H. Esmail also made useful scores.

Hulse conceded 28 runs in six overs without taking a wicket but he then had a spell of

O. M. R. W.
2 0 3 4
and finished with 4 for 39.

With the last two balls of his seventh over he took the wickets of Leonard and Youngsaye and with the first ball of his next he clean-bowled Shroff to register the hat-trick.

Billimoria bowled very steadily to take 5 for 46 in 12.1 overs.

The Bachelors were given a start by Archie Hung and Norman Broadbridge, who added 38 for the first wicket, and Hulse, coming in at the fall of Hung's wicket, then proceeded to hit the bowling all over the field, scoring no fewer than 74 out of his unbroken second wicket partnership with Broadbridge of 94. He hit 14 fours.

MARRIED				
T. Lock, b Souza	27			
W. K. Way, b Billimoria	5			
E. Zimmer, b Billimoria	0			
J. L. Youngsaye, c Ladd, b Hulse	20			
J. W. Leonard, c S. Leonard, b Hulse	17			
C. W. Lam, c S. Leonard, b Billimoria	8			
N. M. Shroff, b Hulse	0			
G. H. A. Morris, st. Hung, b Hulse	3			
A. R. H. Esmail, c and b. Billimoria	22			
U. H. Esmail, b Billimoria	1			
A. N. Other, not out	4			
Extras (B3, LB20, NB1)	24			
Total	131			

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
Hulse	11	1	39	4
Billimoria	13.1	2	46	5
Souza	4	0	11	1
Solima	2	0	11	0

SINGLES				
A. Hung, c Look, b Lam	23			
N. Broadbridge, not out	22			
A. J. Hulse, not out	74			
Extras (B9, LB4)	13			

Total (for 1 wkt.)				
G. Souza, P. J. Billimoria, S. Leonard, E. H. Esmail, S. R. Solima, L. Choa, G. S. Ladd and T. Edgar did not bat	132			

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
U. H. Esmail	3	0	24	0
Lam	6	0	19	1
Way	6	1	35	0
Esmail	3	0	17	0
Youngsaye	2	0	18	0
Leonard	1	0	6	0

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By "Adrem"

RUNS WERE CHEAP AT HONG KONG CRICKET CLUB YESTERDAY, NO FEWER THAN 561 BEING SCORED IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY FOR THE LOSS OF ONLY 11 WICKETS, AND CLUB DRAWING WITH WANDERERS.

Honours of the match go to J. E. Richardson, who, opening for Club, scored no fewer than 137 before lunch and was finally dismissed with his total at 144. In partnership with Ride he added 105 for the second wicket and again with Perry he added 119 for the third wicket. His best scoring strokes were a six, a five and 24 fours and he was at the wickets for about 110 minutes for one of the most brilliant innings seen on the Club ground for some time.

Ride had six fours and Perry a six and seven fours.

At 2.45, with the total at 308 for four and with Owen Hughes and Bosenquet batting confidently, Club declared.

Wanderers Bat

Faced with such a formidable task Wanderers set about the Club attack with confidence although John Pearce was dismissed early on, by Owen Hughes. Alec Pearce and Grose scored freely, hitting anything overpitched with great power and hooking the shorter stuff with gusto. When they had added 137 for the second wicket, Grose, who latterly had been having a dip at everything, was caught by Kilbee off Perry for a useful, although not classical, innings of 72. In the course of this knock Grose must have cow-shotted on more occasions than he has done since his arrival here but the means was justified by the end and Wanderers, on his dismissal, had more than a sporting chance of winning. On Pearce being bowled, however, something of a rot set in until the arrival of Coombes, who played a carefree innings of 72, most of the runs coming from straight and on-driving and powerful hooking.

Grose hit 12 fours, Pearce six and Coombes a six and 13 fours.

Lloyd bowled very steadily and was always difficult to get away, while Owen Hughes, although coming in for a fair amount of punishment, always looked like getting wickets.

HONG KONG C.C.

J. E. Richardson, c and b T. A. Pearce	144			
T. G. C. Knight, b Head	11			
L. T. Ride, l.b.w., b Coombes	44			
A. E. Perry, c J. L. C. Pearce, b Dewar	48			
H. Owen Hughes, not out	31			
D. I. Bosenquet, not out	20			
Extras (B2, LB1, W5, NB2)	10			

Total (for 5 wks. dec.)	308			
R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, L. D. Kilbee, N. D. Lloyd and G. J. P. Carey did not bat.				

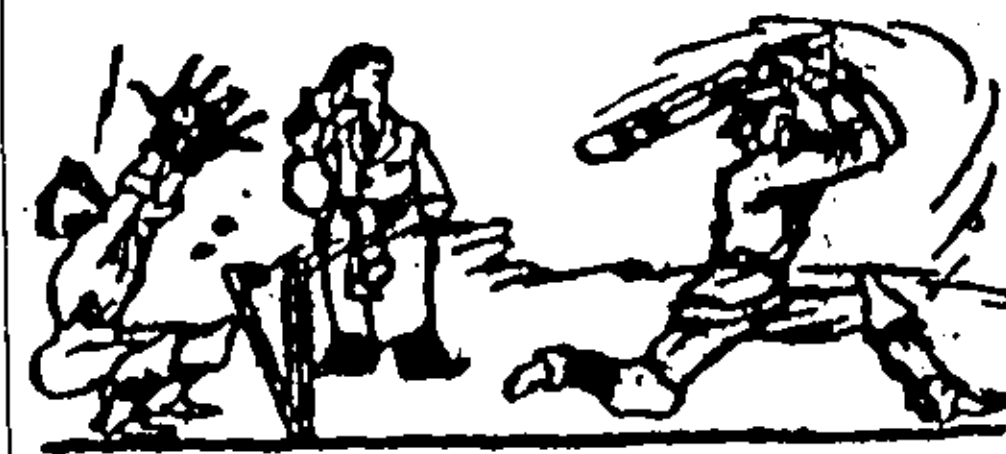
Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
Head	5	0	25	1
Finnie	4	1	19	0
Dewar	9	2	54	1
J. L. C. Pearce	2	0	18	0
T. A. Pearce	10	0	97	1
Coombes	6	0	59	1
Swyer	3	0	28	0

WANDERERS

Major Grose, c Kilbee, b Perry	72			
J. L. C. Pearce, b Owen Hughes	52			
T. A. Pearce, Knight	4			
Major Swyer, c McLellan, b Owen Hughes	5			
A. H. Coombes, not out	77			
Capt. Freeman, b Owen Hughes	0			
Capt. Head, b Owen Hughes	12			
Capt. Dewar, b McLellan	1			
Capt. Peal, not out	2			
Extras (B25, LB1, W2)	28			

Total (for 7 wks.)	253			
Surg-Comdr. Finnie and Capt. Blaire did not bat.				

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
Knight	8	0	42	1
Owen Hughes	10	2	83	4
Lloyd	8	1	57	0
McLellan	10	0	43	1
Perry	2	0	14	1



ALL-ROUND FORM OF W STOKER

GOOD ALL-ROUND FORM BY W. STOKER PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE VICTORY OF THE EUROPEAN STAFF OF HONG KONG ELECTRIC COMPANY OVER THE LOCAL STAFF IN THEIR ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH AT SOO-KUNPOO YESTERDAY.

Stoker hit six fours in an innings of 45 and he was given good support by Barron, who made 21. Hassan was in fine form with the ball for the Locals and took 4 for 15.

With Stoker, Gahagan and Way bowling steadily, Locals were only able to total 72 leaving the European Staff winners by 59 runs.

OVER 30'S				
E. F. Fincher, l.b.w., b Burch	7			
T. A. Madar, c F. R. Zimmermann, b Anderson	36			
S. A. Gray, b Burch	0			
R. Baldwin, c Anderson, b Burch	7			
E. C. Fincher, c and b Anderson	0			
A. N. Other, c Burch, b F. R. Zimmermann	14			
J. W. Bertram, run out	0			
E. Curtis, c Anderson, b Broadbridge	7			
W. Parsons, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmermann	39			
H. Brokenshire, not out	6			
S. O. Else, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmermann	0			
Extras (B27, WB1)	23			
Total	190			

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
F. Zimmermann	8.5	0	39	3
Burch	7	1	25	3
Baxter	3	0	29	1
Anderson	5	2	13	2
Broadbridge	2	0	14	1
Giffen	3	0	19	0
A. Zimmermann	2	0	18	0
Rapley	2	1	5	0

UNDER 30'S				
D. Hung, c and b Baldwin	4			
R. T. Broadbridge, b Baldwin	25			
F. R. Zimmermann, c E. C. Fincher, b Curtis	10			
K. M. Baxter, Curtis	6			
L. R. Burch, run out	0			
F. Crabb, b Curtis	5			
A. Zimmermann, b Baldwin	37			
D. J. N. Anderson, not out	64			
W. L. Rapley, b E. F. Fincher	6			
G. W. Giffen, l.b.w., b E. F. Fincher	0			
A. N. Other, b Curtis	0			
Extras (B9)	9			

Total				
166				

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
Curtis	8.6	0	68	4
Baldwin	9	0	47	3
E. F. Fincher	5	1	28	2
Parsons	4	0	18	0

EUROPEAN STAFF				
C. E. Gahagan, c Haroon, b Hassan	0			
J. McKenna, c Butt, b Razaack	12			
A. F. Paul, c Butt, b Razaack	6			
W. Stoker, c U. A. Ramjahn, b K. M. Ramjahn	45			
A. G. Gardner, c Hassan, b Bux	0			
J. R. Way, b Bux	9			
J. F. Barron, b A. R. Minu	24			
R. F. Gregory, c Marques, b Hassan	11			
W. E. Macfarlane, not out	12			
H. S. Jones, c Butt, b Hassan	0			
J. K. Sloan, b Hassan	0			
Extras	12			
Total	131			

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
M. B. Hassan	5.7	1	13	4
M. I. Razaack	2	0	16	2
S. A. R. Bux	4	0	12	1
G. M. Butt	4	0	32	0
M. A. Adem	1	0	27	0
K. M. Ramjahn	4	0	27	1
A. R. Minu	2	0	11	1

LOCAL STAFF				
K. M. Ramjahn, c Gardner, b Stoker	6			
M. L. Razaack, c Stoker, b Gahagan	11			
U. A. Ramjahn, c Gahagan, b Stoker	8			
S. A. R. Bux, c Gregory, b Gahagan	5			
C. V. Marques, b Gahagan, b Way	11			
M. B. Hassan, c Macfarlane, b Way	21			
A. K. Minu, st. Paul, b McKenna	1			
A. R. Minu, c Gregory, b Stoker	1			
G. M. Butt, c Barron, b Way	1			
M. Adem, not out	0			
I. Haroon, l.b.w., b Gardner	1			
Extras	6			

Total				
72				

Bowling Analysis				
O.	M.	R.	W.	
Stoker	5	0	24	3
Gahagan	4	0	20	3
Way	2	0	3	2
Gardner	2	0	13	1
McKenna	0.6	0	6	1

CASH SWEEPS

Following are the results of cash sweeps at the Kwanti Race Meeting held yesterday:—

RACE 1		
No. 112	\$1,194.26	
" 834	341.21	
" 724	170.61	
Tickets Nos. 262, 374, 308, 1015		
gets \$50 each.		
RACE 2		
No. 1161	\$1,326.42	
" 483	378.97	
" 267	189.49	
Tickets Nos. 646, 1262, 23, 782, 993, 1133		
get \$50 each.		
RACE 3		
No. 861	\$1,655.81	
" 1114	473.09	
" 4	236.54	
Tickets Nos. 1377, 1021, get \$50 each.		
RACE 5		
No. 780	\$ 889.00	
" 971	254.00	
" 415	127.00	
Tickets Nos. 801, 1691, 1123, 1515, 562, 1032, 205, 452, 794, 198		
gets \$25 each.		
RACE 6		
No. 1583	\$1,803.64	
" 702	523.04	
" 1830	261.52	
Tickets Nos. 603, 1516, 1867, 261, 1767		
get \$50 each.		

Amber II	22179
Ciree	53140
Colorado Star (3)	19620
Dick Turpin	40755
Forehand Drive	51746
Heinz	8519
Lovely Cat	3447
Quick Despatch (1)	25697
Rising Star (2)	51430
Ruby Star	10261
Roofly	12421
Schmetterling	50187
Sea Urchin	17665
Surprise Again	34397
Tarzan	5787
1st Prize	\$26,008.42
2nd Prize	7,430.97
3rd Prize	3,715.49
Unplaced ponies (whether start-ers or not): \$344.02 each.	



HOME RUGBY

Three Rugby Union matches were played at Home yesterday, the results being:—

Cardiff	16	A. Welsh XV	0
Gloucester	26	An Army XV	3
Home Counties		Rest of Eng-	
Public		land Public	
Schools	14	Schools	3

—Reuter.



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PORTUGAL GIVE ENGLAND A SCARE IN CHARITY MATCH.

Marques Plays Brilliant Game In Goal For Losers

Freshwater And Hendy Shine For England

By "Referee"

LOSING THE SERVICES of A. V. Gosano, ten minutes from the start, Portugal battled heroically against England in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition at Kowloon Football Club yesterday to lose by the odd goal in five after sharing two goals at the interval.

More was expected of England. They were the heavier team and generally better all round but the Portuguese forwards, particularly Gomes and Santos, were far nippier and gave the English defence a trying time. Forced to play with only four forwards they nevertheless came near scoring on several occasions.

Wilkinson and Coomer were absentees from the English team and Britt and Saw came into the team. Britt filled Wilkinson's position ably but Coomer's absence in the forward line was felt badly. Fox was played on the right wing to permit Saw to be in the inside position, but he was hopelessly out of position, and though Fox sent over good centres at times he was not the force he might have been in the centre-forward berth.

A Better Move

A better move would have been to play LePage on the wing with Fox, as a centre-forward or inside right. LePage has played on the wing before and he would have balanced the forward line better.

England were disappointing at times. Their forwards were slow in front of goal and their passes were often badly placed. Only the height and weight of the defenders prevented Portugal from snatching a win late in the game.

Bright used his head to great advantage in the pivotal position and though he found Gomes and Santos troublesome at times generally had them well marked. Britt played soundly until his injury which forced him to leave the field for a time. Pope, on his right, was sound in his marking and clearances.

Freshwater played well at left-back and proved the greatest obstacle to the Portuguese forwards.

He tackled quickly and without hesitation with the result that Campos had little chance against him.

Roughley, his partner, also played well and though less conspicuous than Freshwater did his share of the work well.

Hendy Troublesome

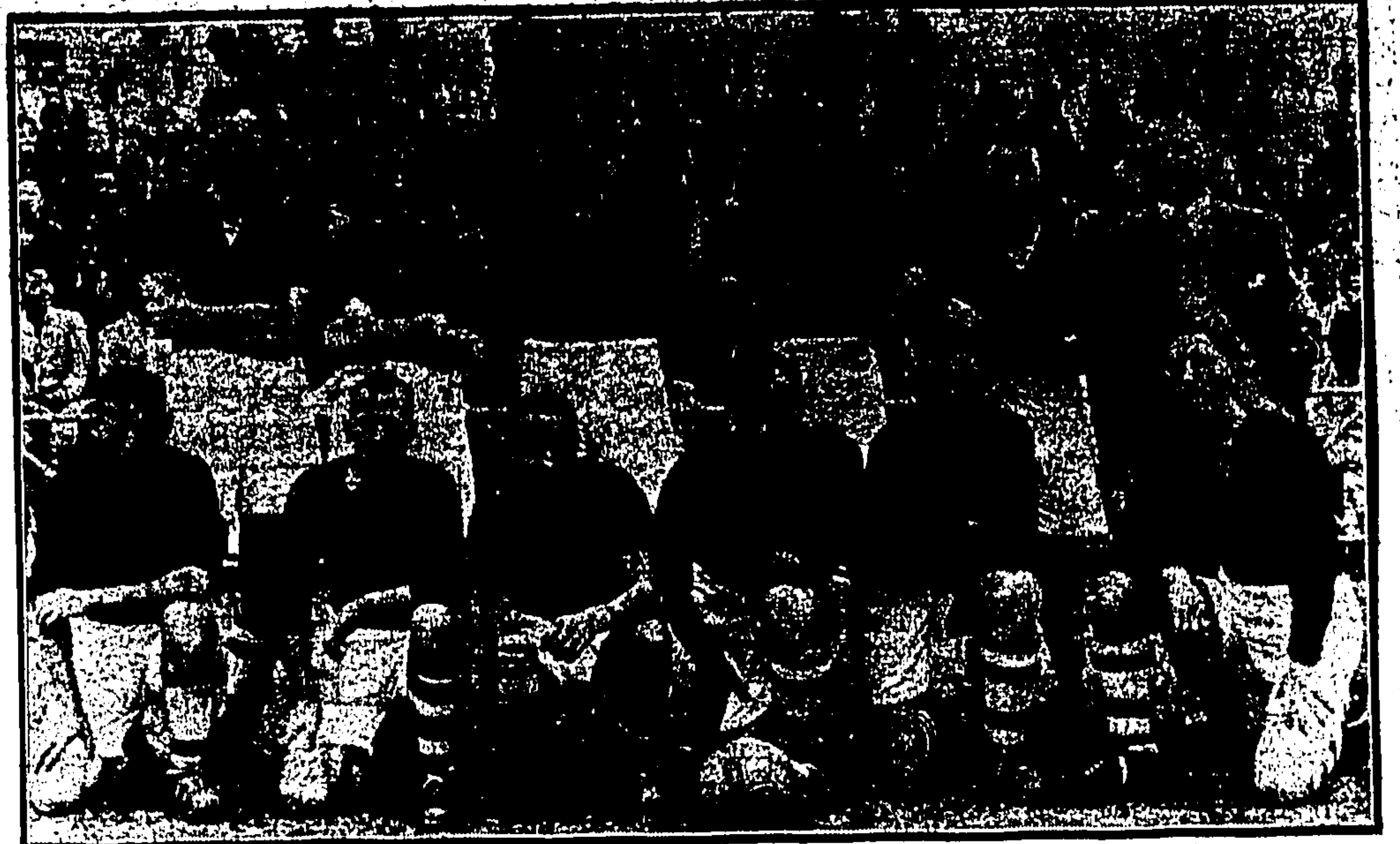
In the forward line Hendy was the most troublesome. He scored all the goals for England. He was always in the thick of things and spared nothing in his way. He led his line well and though B. Gosano kept a close watch on him at all times he was always dangerous.

LePage and Saw tried hard to make openings for their leader, but the former was handicapped by Fox on the right wing, while it was only occasionally that Bickford, on the left, was able to get a free run.

Outstanding players for Portugal were V. Marques in goal, B. Gosano, when at centre-half, and Gomes and Santos in the attack. Had Portugal been fitter they would have easily turned the tables on England in spite of the absence of A. V. Gosano.

Marques, in goal, played a great game and contributed in no small measure to Portugal's narrow defeat. It must have been years since he played in goal but throughout the game he was safe in his handling and in the closing stages merited he applause given his brilliant saves.

B. Gosano played soundly in the pivotal position and though he did not find time to feed his forwards as he would have liked, proved a great stumbling block to the English attackers and was often responsible for the break down of many a dangerous move. Neither of the backs were re-



The Scots soccer team which caused one of the biggest local sports sensations in years when they beat China in the "Sunday Herald" Cup Charity Competition on Christmas Day.

liable under pressure. Alves had a much easier time than Robinson and while he cleared well his clearances were not well placed.

Maxwell was safe at right half and often came out with the ball in his tussles with Bickford and Saw.

Live wires of the Portuguese attack were Gomes and Santos. They were badly handicapped without a leader and both worked hard. Santos was the most troublesome and in spite of his lack of weight did well against the English defence. His positional play brought Campos into the picture with neat runs down the wing and centres which unfortunately were not turned into account.

Alves was sadly in need of practice while Gomes worked hard, often dropping far behind to assist an overworked defence.

Portugal did most of the attacking in the opening period of the game, A. V. Gosano playing well in the centre-half berth while the forward line was seen in some fine movements.

A. V. Gosano was injured in a collision with Hendy and had to leave the field but in spite of

Football Highlights

By "REFeree"

ECLIPSING all other performances in the soccer world for some years past was Scotland's sensational victory over China in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition on Christmas Day at Boundary Street. To turn a deficit of 4 goals to 1 at half time to a 6-5 victory is in itself no mean feat but Scotland, with a team composed for the most part of Royal Scots players, whose battalion team has done nothing of note, to eliminate a Combined Chinese team who for many years past have swept everything before them, is a display that will long be remembered in the annals of local football.

Several years ago, Scotland, with what was considered a weak team, put up a remarkable fight against China on the Club ground only to lose by the narrowest margin. On that occasion the team was managed by J. McKelvie, who also managed this year's Scottish team. How far McKelvie's advice to the players contributed to China's defeat only the players can fully appreciate.

Fraser, with his superb display at back, dispelled any doubts in the minds of Association and Army officials that he is one of the best backs in the Colony. It was mentioned before that he does not do anything spectacular

his absence Portugal were able to hold out for some time. A. V. Gosano returned and played on the right wing, his brother taking up his position, but he was a passenger and in the second half gave up.

England took the lead through Hendy but before the interval Santos placed his side on level terms.

In the second half Hendy again gave his side the lead but Campos equalised when he beat Robinson with a weak shot. The winning goal did not come till late in the game through Hendy.

England: — Robinson, Roughley, Freshwater, Pope, Bright, Britt, Fox, LePage, Hendy, Saw and Bickford. Portugal: — V. Marques, C. P. Remedios, D. Alves, Maxwell, A. V. Gosano, J. Pereira, H. Campos, J. Gomes, B. T. Gosano, C. Santos and T. Alves.

in his position but on Christmas day, he was the outstanding defender on the field with his quick tackling, good covering and powerful clearances. His partner Naysmith also rose to great heights and these two formed a bulwark that did not crumble in the second half against the continued and persistent attacks of the Chinese forwards.

Bankier's good all round display is worthy of some recognition and it would be a horrible misfortune if the Army selectors were not present at this game. He definitely came into the limelight in the second half with some good saves.

There is no doubt that Fraser, captain of the team, knew his own players. He brought in Munro, generally a forward and one of the reserves, into the team as a wing-half in place of Hutchinson and this player did well.

This Royal Scot half-back line with Falconer in the centre-half berth and Clarke at left-half would do credit to any Army side. All tackled quickly and rarely gave the Chinese forwards a chance in the second half.

Two players, Howlett and Ferrier, and two players only made all the difference to a forward-line that had failed miserably in all their League matches.

Hossack the leader did more than was expected of him. He worried the Chinese every time, kept his wingers well supplied with passes and never once took it for granted that a ball would be cleared or go over the line; he kept going for the leather.

Howlett and Ferrier added much needed punch to the attack. Howlett used his weight judiciously, while Ferrier was seen in some neat movements.

The wingers, after a shaky start, improved beyond recognition, Marshall working well with Ferrier and Garrie and Howlett leading Ng Kee-cheong a merry dance.

The venture of using the Police ground for representative games was a great success. The control of the ground was excellent and the accommodation as great as any in the Colony. There was only one fly in the ointment and that was the lack of lavatory accommodation within the enclosures. Some grounds in Hong Kong are without these facilities but the public are aware of this fact and make provision for this. A remedy in this respect would make Boundary Street an excellent venue for future games.

None will regret Scotland's victory except the POOR. Charity is now supported to the extent of approximately \$2,500 as, with nothing in the final, the Chinese public will not be there in numbers.



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Steve's Secret Weapon

Sparkling Essex all-rounder, Captain J. W. A. Stephenson, has just released a good "secret weapon" story without, I fancy, submitting same to censor, writes a Home correspondent.

While on night patrol in Flan-dera he always carried with him two cricket balls.

The idea was that if in the dim light he was surprised it would have been quicker to hurl a ball at the enemy than to draw his pistol.

"I believe the 'Jerry' would have been so startled that even if he wasn't knocked down he would fall down to escape my 'hand grenade' and give me the chance to get in first," he says.

I can almost hear Steve: "How's that?" if and when he had run his man out.

"JACKER'S" MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

THE PRESIDENT OF THE YORKSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB, SIR STANLEY JACKSON, HAS RECEIVED MANY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF LADY JACKSON AND HIMSELF WHEN THE HOUSE THEY WERE SLEEPING IN GOT A DIRECT HIT. THIS IS SIR STANLEY'S SECOND "NEAR THING."

When he was Governor of Bengal, a girl student approached his table at a public meeting in Calcutta and started to open fire with a revolver.

"What did you do, 'Jacker'?" Inquired an old friend at their first meeting on Sir Stanley's return to England.

"Nipped under the table pretty quick. Wouldn't you?" replied "Jacker."

Five shots were fired, and even an old cricketer couldn't be asked to wait for the completion of the over.

By far the greatest amateur all-rounder since A. G. Steel, they still talk in Yorkshire of Jackson's share in that game 38 years ago when his five for 12 and Hirst's five for nine didn't leave much for the other Yorkshire bowlers against Joe Darling's first Australian team here.

BOON'S BAD BLUNDER

The Liverpool contest between Ernie Roderick and Eric Boon (writes Norman Hurst) revealed that Boon is not ready for the welterweight championship class yet.

I saw only one occasion when he had a chance, and he missed it. A swinging punch starting from his hip landed on his opponent's jaw, Roderick stumbling backwards into the ropes.

I looked for an immediate furious onslaught from Boon but he stepped back, waited for Roderick to recover, then held out his hand to his opponent before continuing the fight.

That ultra-sporting gesture was misplaced and cost him dearly. Boon had created a wonderful opportunity. He failed to collect. That is all there is to it.

From then on Roderick boxed to the back, never gave him a chance, dropped him five times and when the final bell rang it was a very much battered Boon, bleeding at the nose and the eye closed.



T. K. L.'s Confusion Bay (Mr. S. L. Sung up) being led in after winning the Hong Kong Autumn Champions by a head from Burford in record-breaking time. It won this same event last year. (Kahn).

COTTAGE CLUB HUNT

The Cottage Club paper-hunt on Christmas Day for the President's Cup was won by Robin Blake, who beat Van Rynberg, who came second, by a very close margin.

Up to the last moment the hunt was completely in the hands of

Miss Kiki de Chaffoy, who had bad luck in being bumped off the course in the last 50 yards and her pony did not finish the race between the flags.

There were 25 starters for the hunt, which was run over seven miles of good grass country.

Yesterday, the Club President and Committee were "At Home" to members and their friends at their annual Christmas Tiffin.

GERMANS ARE STEALING FRENCH THOROUGHBREDS

THE GERMANS HAVE been sorting out the best of the thoroughbred breeding stock in France, and sending many of the horses to Germany, writes J. H. Park.

Germans would be the first to appreciate the value of French bloodstock, because French horses have regularly won the chief German race prizes.

They have made a clean sweep of the Grand Prix of the Reich and the Brown Band at Munich.

Nearly all the finest studs in the country were in Normandy, which is part of the German occupied territory.

Most of the horses in training were taken to the Bordeaux district when the invasion began, but it was not possible to secure travelling facilities for all the mares, foals, yearlings and stallions in the breeding establishments.

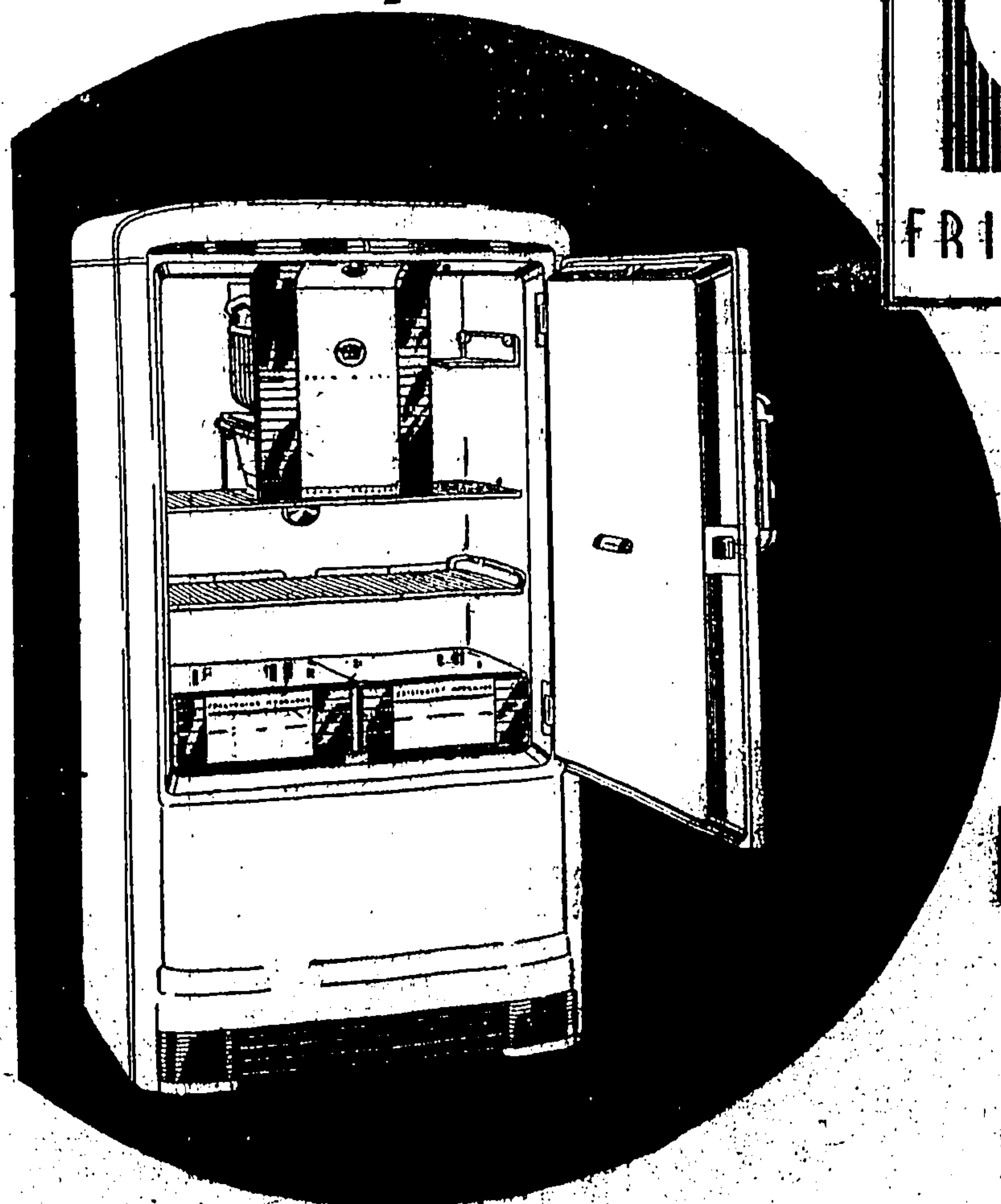
A few of the more valuable stallions were evacuated but the majority of the mares and young stock had to be left behind. The stud employees were sworn to secrecy. They promised not to divulge the identity of the various animals. No doubt the Germans have discovered some means of finding out what they want to know.

The value of the breeding stock in Normandy had to be reckoned in millions of pounds in pre-war days. It is to be feared all that has been lost to the former owners.

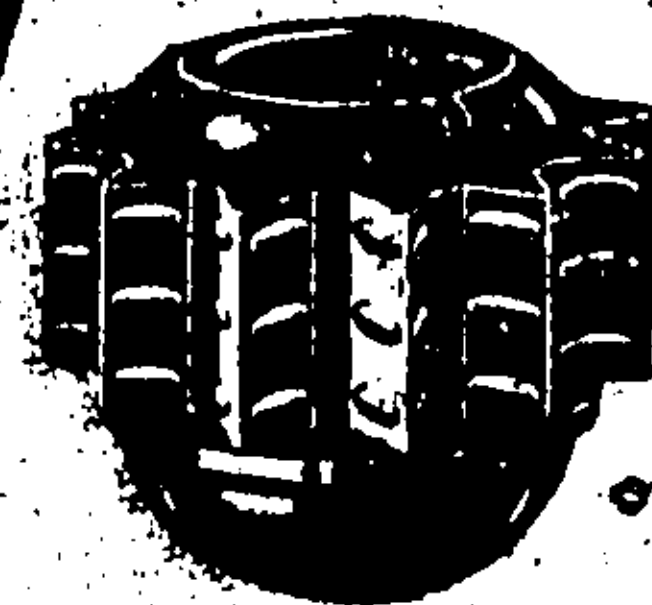
K.B.G.C. CLOSING DAY

Kowloon Bowloon Green Club will hold their annual Lawn Bowls Closing Day on Saturday when members will be "At Home" to their guests. Lawn Bowls games will commence at 2.30 p.m. These will be followed by the presentation of prizes won during the year.

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CHRISTMAS AIR LULL

Interpreted In America As Tacit Restraint

LONDON COMMENT ON TRUCE

Poor visibility may have enforced the Christmas bombing "truce," Reuter's air correspondent is informed.

It was emphatically denied in London yesterday that the absence of British and German raids is the outcome of any official or unofficial understanding.

The following comment was made yesterday: "The weather has been bad enough over the Channel."

"Low cloud and fog have been the rule since Christmas Eve. Added to this the nights have been particularly black and no moon."

Christmas Influence

"It would be idle to suggest that Christmas has not influenced those in command of operations at all, but if the weather had been good I think we should have seen the usual activity."

There is no doubt that the personnel of both the R.A.F. and the Luftwaffe welcomed the rest, and it has been a factor of no small psychological importance that bombing crews have been able to forget their war work for a time and enjoy to the full the season of peace.—Reuter.

No German Or British 'Planes Raid

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE PRINCE OF PEACE brought peace to the British and German peoples over Christmas, and in deference to the season Germany and Britain refrained from inflicting modern war on each other.

At the apparent suggestion of Germany, both sides recognised a tacit Christmas truce and not a single German aeroplane was reported anywhere over the British Isles.

The German big guns on the continental side of the English Channel remained silent, as did British coastal batteries in the Dover area.

Germany, through neutral diplomatic quarters, intimated she would refrain from air war during Christmas if the British did.

British official quarters refused to admit that the British Government had entered into any truce agreement with the Germans.

Nevertheless no British bombers left for the usual raids over Germany and German-occupied territories on the Continent.—International News Service.

NOT IMPRESSED

THE NAZIS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GAIN SOME SORT OF REPUTATION FOR VIRTUE OVER THEIR ABSTINENCE FROM BOMBING OVER THE XMAS HOLIDAYS, BUT MR. SOL BLOOM, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IS NOT IMPRESSED.

He said on Christmas night:—A man or a nation cannot become devoutly religious on one day of the year while committing crimes of the worst sort on the other 364.

"You cannot trust a criminal or a gangster." — Reuter.

PEACE URGE FINDS ECHO IN SPAIN

The Pope's appeal for peace has found a ready echo in Spain.

Formerly rather a fiery newspaper, the "Arriba," official organ of the State Party, yesterday carried a leader expressing great satisfaction at the virtual Christmas "truce," the fact that on Christmas Day there was no air activity over either Germany or England having already been given prominence in the Christmas newspapers.

"Arriba" expresses the hope that this may be a symptom of the possibility of peace.

The paper says: "Spain to-day as then, when General Franco on the first day of the war examined the conflict, continues unwaveringly in her position."

As a matter of fact, in the speech referred to by the newspaper, General Franco ordered Spaniards to observe the strictest neutrality but following Italy's entry into the war Spain became a non-belligerent.—Reuter.

THE TASK OF 1941

"IF WE CAN HOLD ON DURING 1941, WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN PRODUCE GIVES US THE CERTAINTY OF ULTIMATE VICTORY," SAID SIR WALTER LAYTON YESTERDAY, SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO BRITAIN FROM A TOUR OF AMERICA.

The aid the United States will be able to give will become a "positive avalanche," he added.

The U.S. effort will begin to mature during the summer and will reach its climax next winter and in the spring of 1942.—Reuter.

The prefix "special" to telegrams is used by the "Sunday Herald" and "China Mail" to indicate news which is strictly copyright under the provisions of the Telecommunications Ordinance, 1936, and may not be reprinted under any circumstances, either wholly or in part, without prior arrangement.

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STOP PRESS

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General Pai was speaking at a meeting of military leaders in Chungking, called to commemorate the anniversary of the Yunnan Revolt against Yuan Shih-kai.

After declaring that the present time is the golden period of Chinese resistance, General Pai pointed out that any quarters wishing to prejudice the national unity for their own selfish interests would be committing the greatest crime against the Chinese nation and would be digging their own graves.—Reuter.

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PERFECT INVASION WEATHER

Guardians Of British Coast Doubled In Dover Area

CRIME
WILL
OUT?

A suspicion that the enemy may have manufactured "evidence" to suggest that R.A.F. planes bombard Swiss territory was voiced in authoritative quarters in London yesterday.

A Swiss General Staff communique stated that foreign planes flew over Swiss territory on Christmas Eve and authoritative quarters in London now point out it has been officially announced that no R.A.F. operations were carried out over Europe on the nights of December 24 and 25.

The same quarters observe that the Swiss communique confirms suspicions that earlier reports of the bombing of Swiss territory by the R.A.F. may have been based on evidence manufactured by the enemy. — Reuter.

Picked Troops
Comb The BeachesNO CHANGE
REPORTED
IN LIBYA

A successful British raid east of Kassala, in which a number of casualties were inflicted on the enemy, was announced in a Cairo G.H.Q. communique yesterday.

No change is reported in Libya, and on other fronts there is nothing of importance to report. — Reuter.

PERFECT "INVASION WEATHER" OCCURRED IN THE STRAITS OF DOVER DURING CHRISTMAS, AND THE HEAVILY ARMED GUARDS WERE DOUBLED AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY OF A LIGHTNING GERMAN THRUST THROUGH THE BLANKET OF MIST COVERING THE CALM SEA.

Picked troops combed the beaches while the crews of long-range guns were ready for instant action and ships of the Dover Patrol slid through the mist keeping their day and night watch.

Meanwhile behind its ramparts Dover enjoyed a peaceful holiday. Shops were as crowded as in peacetime, a music hall and several cinemas were open and public dances continued until midnight.

Britain stood on guard against invasion throughout Christmas-tide.

While the unofficial air war "truce" was on, vigilance on the Channel coast was redoubled.

Workers Keep At It

Arms workers sacrificed their holiday to ensure a continued steady stream of munitions, and yesterday also war factories were running at full speed and millions of factory workers and others in offices and public services were working for the first time on Boxing Day since the passing of the Bank Holidays Act in 1871. — Reuter.

Nazi Threat Of
"New Blow"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL") German quarters in Berlin yesterday strongly hinted that a new and more powerful blow than any yet struck would be

COVENTRY'S X'MAS
PRESENT TO QUEEN

Among Christmas presents received by the Queen was a large basket of roses from Coventry residents in recognition of the practical sympathy shown by Their Majesties since the city was bombed. — British Wireless.

SIR ROBERT
BROOKE-POPHAM

Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, recently appointed Commander-in-Chief of the newly created Far East Command, arrived in Hong Kong this morning on a tour of inspection.

side with the British and Allied armies.

"Belgians in countries not occupied by the German army are affected by this decree and should consult their nearest consul regarding their present military status." — Reuter.

GREEKS
ADVANCE
2 MILES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The Greeks celebrated Christmas by further advances in the southern coastal and central sectors in Albania.

An advance of two miles was made by the Greeks who are pushing the Italians back north of Chirama.

In the Tepelini sector several additional fortified positions have been occupied by the Greeks.

Meanwhile the Greek High Command announces a series of skirmishes in which both Italian soldiers and war equipment were seized. — International News Service.

BOMB DROPPED ON
ISLE OF SHEPPEY

The Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security state that a single enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the Isle of Sheppey (in the Thames Estuary) early yesterday afternoon. Little damage was done and there were no casualties.

There is nothing further to report. — British Wireless.

DEFEAT OF AXIS
AS AXIOM OF
U.S. POLICY

MORE THAN 150 American citizens have urged President Roosevelt to "make it the settled policy of the United States to do everything that may be necessary to ensure the defeat of the Axis Powers." This was announced by the White House yesterday.

In a letter to the President the group, which includes editors, lawyers, educationalists, actors and religious and labour leaders, appeal for everything possible to be done to promote "resistance to the plausible but fatal arguments of appeasement."

Evidently to let President Roosevelt know what they consider a large section of the United States people would like to hear in his broadcast on Sunday, the letter continues:—

"We ask you to tell us what we believe to be the truth — that the materials of war and the military, naval and air strength we now have, and the implements we can produce, are enough to make certain the defeat of the Axis powers, so long as Britain is on her feet and fighting; but that with Britain down there is not enough and only not in future, he increased enough to hold the whole world."

The Signatories

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Hamilton, Pa.; Republican Representative, (Va.) John W. Davis; Henry Breckinridge, (well-known New York lawyer); Douglas Fairbanks; Dwight Morrow; and Anthony Quinn, (the famous Columbia Pictures actor).

BELGIAN
CALL
TO ARMS

A "call to arms" to all Belgians between the ages of 18 and 25 has been issued by the Belgian Consul-General in New York, M. Charles Halleart.

It also includes reserve officers and volunteers between the ages of 18 and 38, who will also be accepted for service.

The announcement says: "Belgian units are now being formed in England to fight side by

Top news from the field of science this year was the brand new electric refrigerator for home use. Resulting from more than three years of rigid laboratory tests and experiments, the new refrigerator is triple-acting for new-perfect preservation of all types of food.

A product of the extensive laboratories maintained in Philadelphia, Pa., by the Philco Radio and Television Corp., the new device, while no larger than the ordinary present-day refrigerator, embodies three types of food preservation in two distinct processes. Three partitions in the refrigerator divide three types of food: dry all-purpose foods, such as meats, poultry, fish, and vegetables; a second compartment designed for frozen foods and desserts.

Besides the electric freezing unit which operates on frost, the most economical and practical of all known refrigerants, the new refrigerator also has an aluminum Moist Cold Shelf. This addition is a brand new invention and evolves from a process perfected by Philco technicians. When

dishes of food come in contact with the shelf, heat is quickly drawn out and the food is chilled almost immediately. Strangely, too, the more dishes placed on the shelf, the faster it works.

The new refrigerator operates by the controlled circulation of dehumidified air which eliminates completely usual refrigeration odours and assists in further preservation of foods with no mixing of odours. The new refrigerator has two compartments. On the top shelf, which is frequently used and is a second compartment, prevents escape of odours every time the refrigerator is opened.

The new refrigerator, according to Philco engineers, represents the most important step in food preservation since the development of the electric refrigerator itself.

Every model is within your reach, and the agents will be only too pleased to give you a demonstration without obligation. All you need to do is phone 27444 or 27017 (Hong Kong) or 55028 (Kowloon) or write for further information to the local agents, Messrs. Glman & Co., Ltd., 44, Des Voeux Road, C. Gloucester Arcade, or 131, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

THREE NOTABLE SPEECHES

Mr. Churchill Sure Of Himself, Of Cause and of Strength

ITALIANS AND THE CHURCHILL MESSAGE

The Italian Radio on Christmas Day vituperated in customary style on Mr. Churchill's message to the Italian people but there is still a lot of doubt as to just how much of his speech the Italian people have actually been allowed to read.

In a Portuguese broadcast, Rome Radio declared:—

"While London declares that the Italians did not have the courage to publish the speech, all the Italian papers reported it in full."

The Turkish radio doubted the truth of that statement, and deduced from German and Italian comments that the text of the speech was not given verbatim in either country.

The Turkish radio was correct — for Rome Radio declared in an English broadcast:—

"All the Italian papers have published practically the entire text. We regret that they couldn't publish the whole of it owing to the fact that there was more important news to be printed."

London commentators point out slyly that the New York newspapers found nothing of more importance or to crowd it out of their papers! — Reuter.

(By Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent).

THERE WERE three notable speeches over the Christmas recess, all of extraordinary interest and exceptional importance. The speakers were Mr. Winston Churchill, the Pope and King George VI.

Mr. Churchill's broadcast was addressed to the Italian people "with whom we are at war." It was a speech that could only be delivered by a man sure of himself, sure of his cause, sure of his strength.

It was a frank statement of Britain's relations with Italy, showing how the traditional mutual sympathy and interests had been envenomed and completely reversed by the attitude of a single man—the Duce.

The feeble answer put out by the Italian radio evades the issues so plainly stated by Mr. Churchill and simply reaffirms the Fascist arguments, based on Nazi concepts — young people, lebensraum, right is might etc.

There is, however, rather a tendency to protest too strongly for the conviction of unity prevailing between the army, the Fascist Party and the Royal Family.

The supercession of so many high officers recently is proof of rifts in this unity.

Pope's Indictment

The Pope's address was also remarkable, seeing that it was delivered from Rome at this season.

His Holiness' summary of the five points for which all true Christians should practice was the most telling indictment of the whole totalitarian policy that could conceivably be made, especially in the exceptional

circumstances of the Pope's position. He brands the offence but does not mention the offender.

Strong Influence

Nobody who heard or read his homily can fail to realise that the victory of truth, righteousness, honour, peace and mutual good-will could be reached in only one way.

Coming at this moment, especially so hard upon the heels of Mr. Churchill's words, the address must have greatly intensified the strong influence, his admonitions would have had in any case.

His Majesty's Speech

King George's speech was of a different character compared to the other two addresses.

It was non-political, almost non-political.

His Majesty spoke as man to man, he spoke of the family, then of home life and the Christmas spirit, of national unity, of national confidence and the hope of better things.

No greater contrast to the usual blustering boasts and noisy fulminations of the Axis leaders could possibly be imagined. — Reuter.

NEW ADMIRALTY CHIEF OF SUPPLIES

The appointment of Vice-Admiral John Cunningham as Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty and Chief of Supplies and Transport was announced in London last night.

During the last war Vice-Admiral Cunningham was at sea practically the whole time, taking part, among other actions, in the Dardanelles campaign. — Reuter.

NOT THE MEN, THE LEADERS

Rome Radio and the Italian Press have been trying to paint a picture of the holding out of the Bardia garrison as heroic achievement, the Italian people being told again and again of the "good moral fighting qualities" of soldiers overseas.

Commentators outside Italy remark on the ineptitude of this propaganda, because it is known both inside and outside the country that the Italian series of defeats in Albania and the Western Desert is not the fault of the Italian soldiers but of the general direction of Italy's war policy.

Mussolini attacked Greece without taking the proper military measures to carry out the campaign.

Marshal Graziani, like the other officers under Mussolini, spent three months preparing fortifications in the Western Desert that were so badly conceived that they fell like nimb-pins when the British attacked.

It is thought in London that possibly Rome Radio may have had an eye on Germany on Wednesday night when it announced:—

"The British — like all foreigners — must learn to recognise the Italian people's fighting quality." — Reuter.

situation in Britain is "very easy indeed."

The sugar-beet crop this autumn has been a very successful one, and the Ministry of Food has ample sugar stocks, both home produced and from overseas.

Tea supplies are expected to last for many months to come.

There is some suggestion that the meat ration may be reduced in the new year from 1/10 worth per head to 1/8 worth.

The Ministry has found that only about 90 to 95 per cent of the present ration is used. — Reuter.

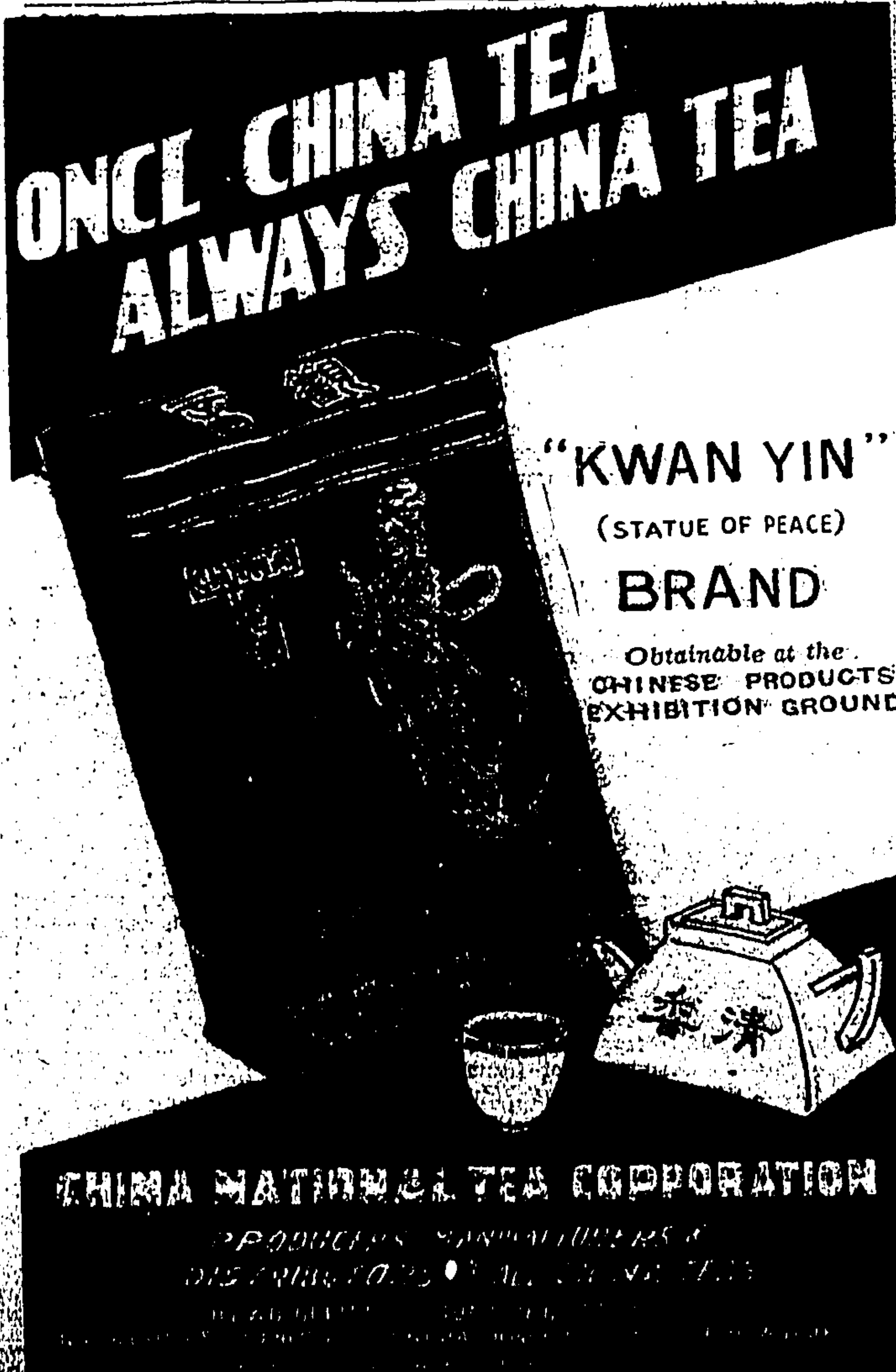
BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLIES

Despite all the efforts of the German counter-blockade, the Ministry of Food still has sufficient stocks of all essential food stuffs, and even if the British people have to have shorter supplies there is no fear of their being forced to go on "iron rations."

Even if the present butter ration is cut, the British people will still be getting a larger allowance than the inhabitants of the enemy countries and the territories they have over-run.

Food experts regard the position of fats as a very important one for a country's staying power, and they say that the

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INFLATION IN JAPAN

OFFICIALS OF THE BANK OF JAPAN MOVED TO CHECK THE CONTINUED INFLATIONARY TREND AS THE TOTAL NOTE ISSUE WHEN THAT INSTITUTION OPENED YESTERDAY MORNING SET A NEW HIGH RECORD OF ¥4,405,000,000.

In the meantime, loans outstanding had reached ¥585,000,000.

This demand for loans is attributed to the need for funds to pay dividends, also to the lag in Government payments. — Reuter.

BRITAIN'S WAR TRADE

Imports into Britain during the month of November, stated the Board of Trade yesterday, reached a total of £72,980,450 compared with £85,095,585 in October and £84,042,757 in November last year.

Figures for food, drink and tobacco were £20,721,000 against £22,807,000 in October and £26,867,000 in November last year.

Exports were £23,000,161 compared with £23,380,911 in October and £27,800,327 in November last year. — British Wireless.

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SUDAN FRONT NO PLACE FOR THE SQUEAMISH

Kassala Unsafe In Watches Of Night

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent in the Sudan).

BRITISH PATROLS IN THE KASSALA SECTION OF THE 1,200-MILE SUDAN-ABYSSINIAN FRONT ARE BECOMING MORE ACTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE AND ALTHOUGH THIS RAILWAY TOWN, WHICH IS SITUATED INSIDE THE SUDAN 20 MILES FROM THE FRONTIER, IS HELD BY THE ENEMY, ITS STREETS HAVE BECOME DANGEROUS AT NIGHT FOR UNWARY ITALIAN TROOPS.

Men are found dead in lonely alleyways and at street corners in this once peaceful trading centre, and men lock their doors, fearful of soft-footed Sudanese troops who are repeatedly stealing into the town under cover of darkness, seizing an occasional prisoner, killing a dozing sentry or merely "borrowing" some cases of beer or chianti.

On one occasion Sudanese entered the town, arrested a notorious enemy native agent as he was lying asleep by his house and carried him back to the British lines.

WARNING BY GEN. PAI CHUNG-HSI

"THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE KUOMINTANG PARTY WILL FALL AND THOSE WHO REFUSE TO CARRY OUT THE ORDERS OF THE HIGH COMMAND WILL BE DENOUNCED BY THE ENTIRE NATION," DECLARED GENERAL PAI CHUNG-HSI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE CHINESE ARMY.

General Pai was speaking at a meeting of military leaders in Chungking, called to commemorate the anniversary of the Yunnan Revolt against Yuan Shih-kai.

After declaring that the present time is the golden period of Chinese resistance, General Pai pointed out that any quarters wishing to prejudice the national unity for their own selfish interests would be committing the greatest crime against the Chinese nation and would be digging their own graves. — Reuter.

WANCHAI SHOOTING

A PEDESTRIAN WAS WOUNDED IN THE HEAD WHEN AN INDIAN POLICE RESERVIST FIRED A SHOT AT A NUMBER OF MEN FLEEING TO ESCAPE ARREST IN WANCHAI AT ABOUT 12.30 A.M. TO-DAY.

The man has been admitted to hospital but his condition is not serious.

Summoned by police whistles to Spring Garden Lane, the Reservist ordered a rowdy crowd to disperse. Apparently, some resented the interruption and an argument resulted in which the alleged ringleaders attempted to assault the Reservist.

Chasing the men through several streets, the Reservist fired a shot at them to compel them to stop. The men, however, escaped.

All along the border British patrols and small parties of the Sudan defence force are hustling the enemy back towards the frontier.

There has been a series of hide-and-seek ambushes among the enemy bushes and tall grass of the bush country.

Occasionally there is a larger operation when a mechanised patrol of the Sudan Defence Force waylays some Italian column which becomes too venturesome, but the British harassing tactics, originally designed to contain the enemy forces, are now having the effect of slowly pushing the Italians back.

Italian Main Body

The main body of the Italian army is concentrated at Asmara and Agordat, in Eritrea, supporting Kassala, and in northern Abyssinia around Gondar and Lake Tana, supporting Gailabat.

There are also large concentrations in the neighbourhood of Addis Ababa.

Cat-And-Mouse

The British and Imperial troops have now been reinforced and fully equipped and are lying in wait like a cat watching a mouse along the whole front, while the Italian hold on Abyssinia is also threatened by General Cunningham's forces on the Kenya border.

Inside Abyssinia itself the tribes are growing more restless.

The flame of revolt is being further fanned by the R.A.F. who are incessantly bombing Italian strongholds within sight of discontented tribesmen. — Reuter.

RHODESIAN GESTURE

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, thanking the children of Nchang, Northern Rhodesia, for giving up their own Christmas presents to contribute £140 for British children in bombed areas, says: "It will bring happiness to many children who are homeless and I wish the children of Rhodesia to know that the Government will remember their own gesture and will do all in its power to help these children and their parents." — British Wireless.

DENY THEY CONSENTED TO MARRIAGE

A titled man who was stated to have lived for twenty years in an atmosphere of "extreme wealth," was referred to in a court action as a "shiftless youth who got worse," and as a "lucky man to get such a nice wife."

The man was Sir Victor Chetwynd, who died in 1938 at the age of thirty-four.

His widow, Lady Valian Betty Chetwynd, claimed in the Chancery Division a declaration that she was entitled to half the income for life from a fund under a voluntary settlement made by Mr. Jack Barnato Joel.

It was stated that Sir Victor's mother, Lady Rosalind Chetwynd, left all her property to Mr. J. B. Joel with a request that he should look after her son.

In consideration of that, Mr. J. B. Joel made a deed of voluntary settlement in favour of Sir Victor. The present trustees of the settlement were Mr. J. B. Joel and his son, Mr. Harry Joel.

A clause in the settlement stated that if Sir Victor died, having married with the consent of the trustees, half the income from the settlement should be paid to his widow.

Lady Chetwynd maintained the trustees had given their consent to the marriage, but the trustees denied it.

Mr. S. Cope Morgan, for Lady Chetwynd, said Sir Victor was born at the end of 1902 and, until his mother's death twenty years later, he lived in an atmosphere of extreme wealth. He married in January, 1929.

Lady Chetwynd, giving evidence, said she and her late husband had no knowledge of any formal consent to their marriage being required.

She came to London to introduce herself to "Uncle Jack" (Mr. J. B. Joel), who, she understood, was her husband's guardian. He was too ill to see her, but she saw Mr. Joel, jun., and gathered that his father was pleased with the marriage.

Mr. Harry Joel, in the witness-box, said his interview with Lady Chetwynd was friendly. The marriage was not discussed.

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Joel if he were a Christian or a Jew. Mr. Joel replied that he was a Jew.

"Why did you not put on your hat when you were sworn?" asked Mr. Morgan.

The Judge then ordered the witness to be re-sworn in Jewish fashion and to repeat his evidence.

Mr. Morgan: Are you prepared to accept that money at the expense of Lady Chetwynd?—Yes, I am not prepared to give my consent to the marriage.

Mr. William Page, a solicitor, said Lady Chetwynd told him in 1929 of her marriage.

He certainly did not congratulate Lady Chetwynd or express pleasure with the marriage. "Had the character of the boy changed between the date of the settlement and the date of his marriage? Was he always a shiftless youth?" the Judge asked.

Mr. Page: Yes, he was always a shiftless youth, but he got worse.

Mr. Page said that, speaking personally, he thought Sir Victor was a very lucky man to get such a nice wife.

The hearing was adjourned.



Mothers and children from the L.C.C. areas and East and West Ham are still being evacuated to "safe areas" outside London. Photo shows an amusing study of a tiny tot examining the identification label of her companion. (Copyright, Fox).

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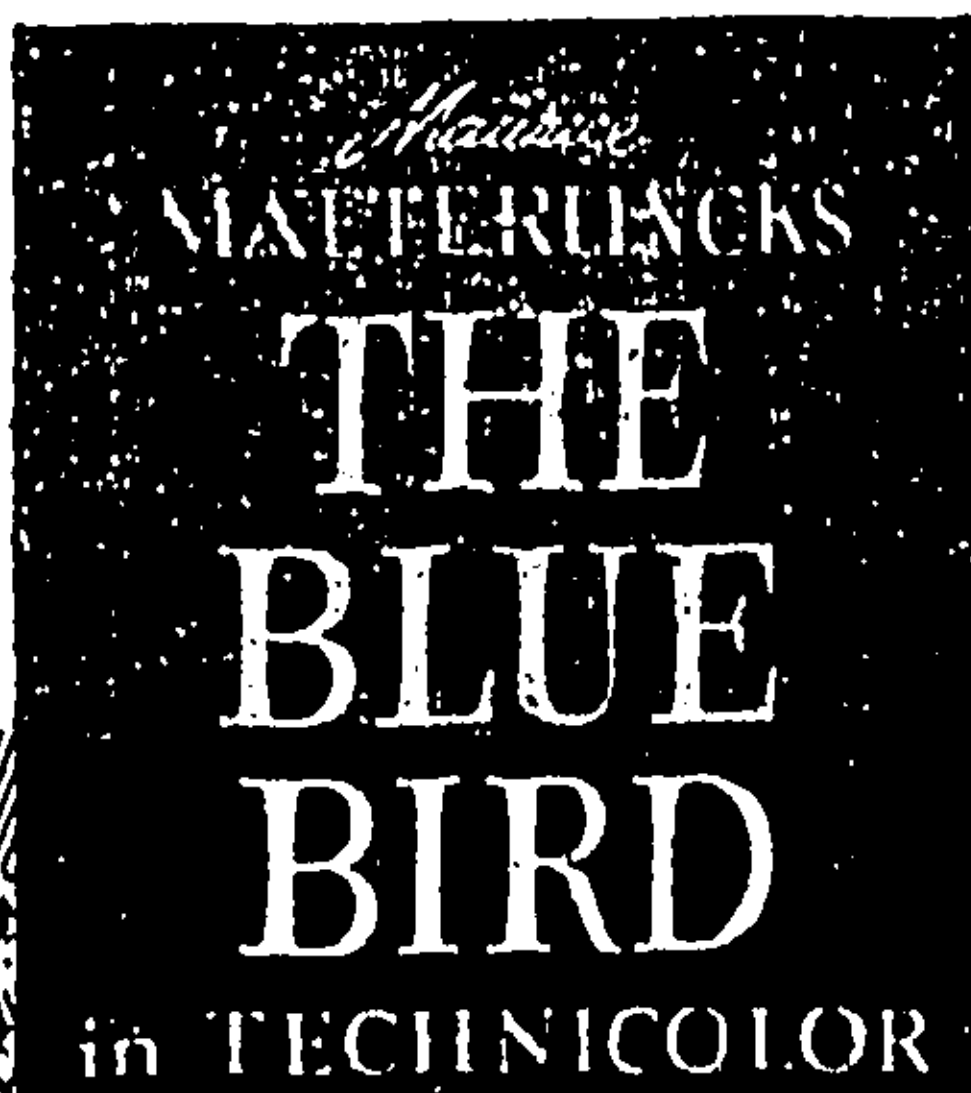
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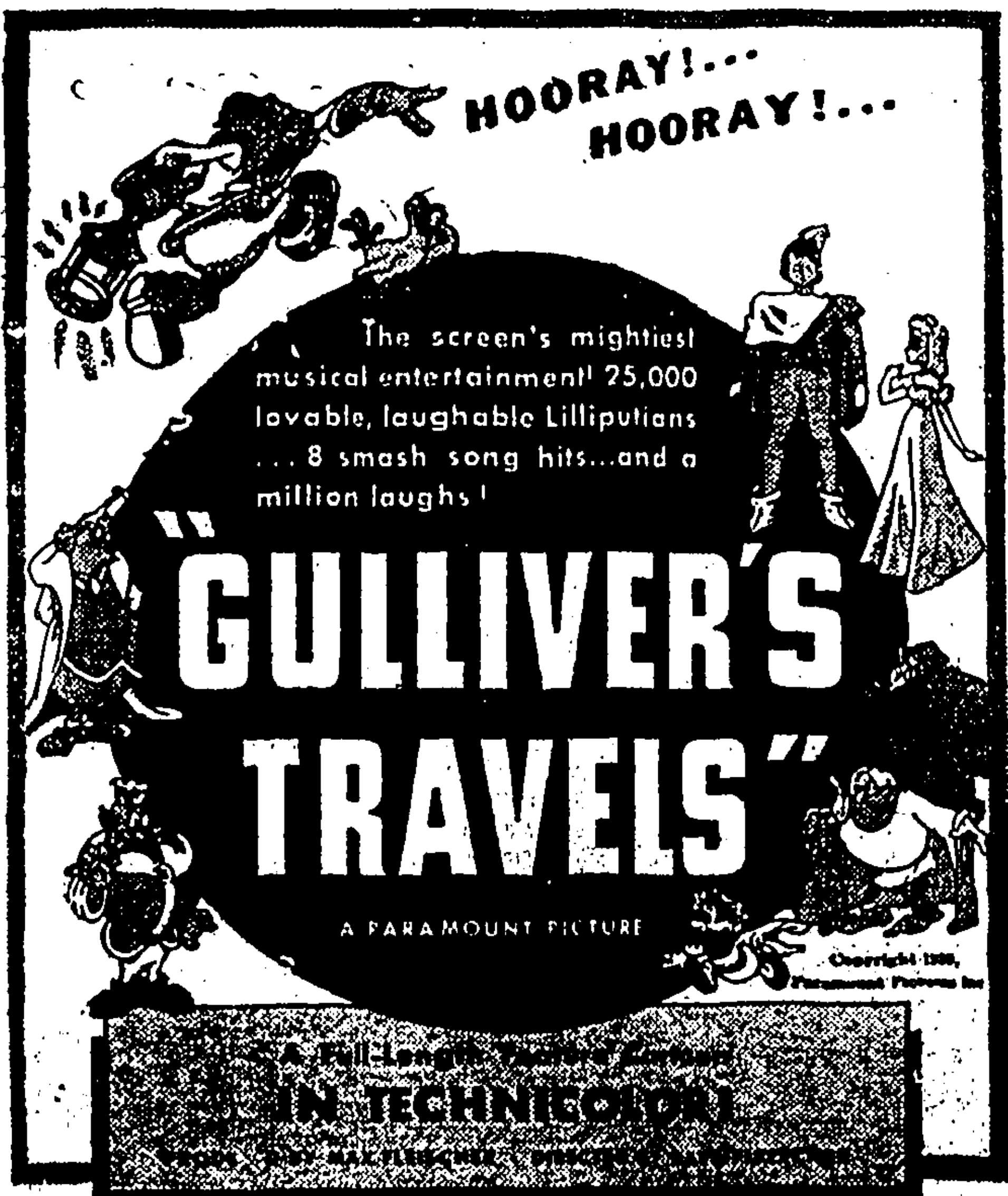
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NAZIS TRY PEACE PROPAGANDA FOR A X'MAS DIVERSION

IN BROADCASTS directed to Britain, the German Radio has been plugging away on the lines of "Why should Britain go on with the war?"

Several recent broadcasts directed at Britain have asserted that the British Government has had several opportunities of getting peace.

It is not supposed in London that the Germans really expect much to result from this "peace propaganda," especially when one takes into consideration the continual statements in German home broadcasts that the war will be a long one and that Britain is not easily overcome.

All this German radio and press campaign has given the lie to Marshal Braunschweig's statement that "the English Channel protects Britain only so long as it suits Germany."

Thus, the "Berliner Borsen Zeitung" says that in achieving and undertaking a task of such magnitude "a few months more or less is of no importance."

There has been a lot of comment outside Germany in the contrast between these warnings to the German people and the suggestion to the British people that Britain should make peace.

Some commentators take it as a sign that Hitler is probably still hoping to get out of his present predicament by a peace offensive, the essence of which would be to eliminate British opposition while leaving him still in possession of the countries he has over-run in Europe. — Reuter.

PUBLIC OPINION

The announcement that the Vichy Government has decided to release French officers captured at Dakar has drawn from General de Gaulle the rejoinder that he welcomes the fact that French public opinion compelled the release of these officers and non-commissioned officers, whom until recently Vichy intended to bring before a court martial.

General de Gaulle added that it is, however, clearly understood that the step taken by Vichy will in no way modify the safety measure taken regarding certain generals and senior officers arrested by the Free French forces in the course of recent police operations in the Gabon. — Reuter.

MARQUIS, 61, TO WED AGAIN

The engagement was announced of the Marquis of Aberdeen and Mrs. Guy Innes, widow of Captain J. W. G. Innes. Lord Aberdeen is sixty-one. He was formerly married to Mrs. E. Cockayne, of Sheffield, who died in 1937.

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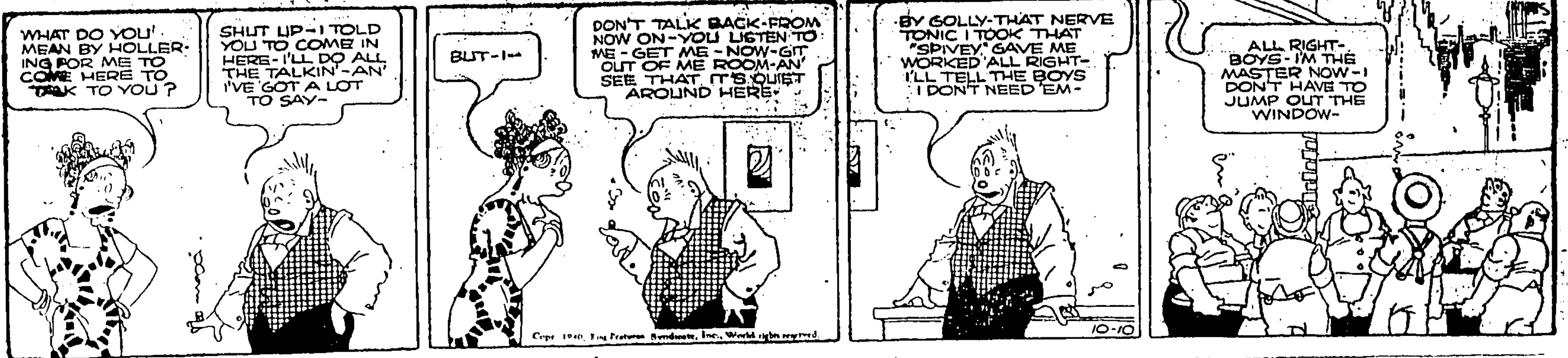
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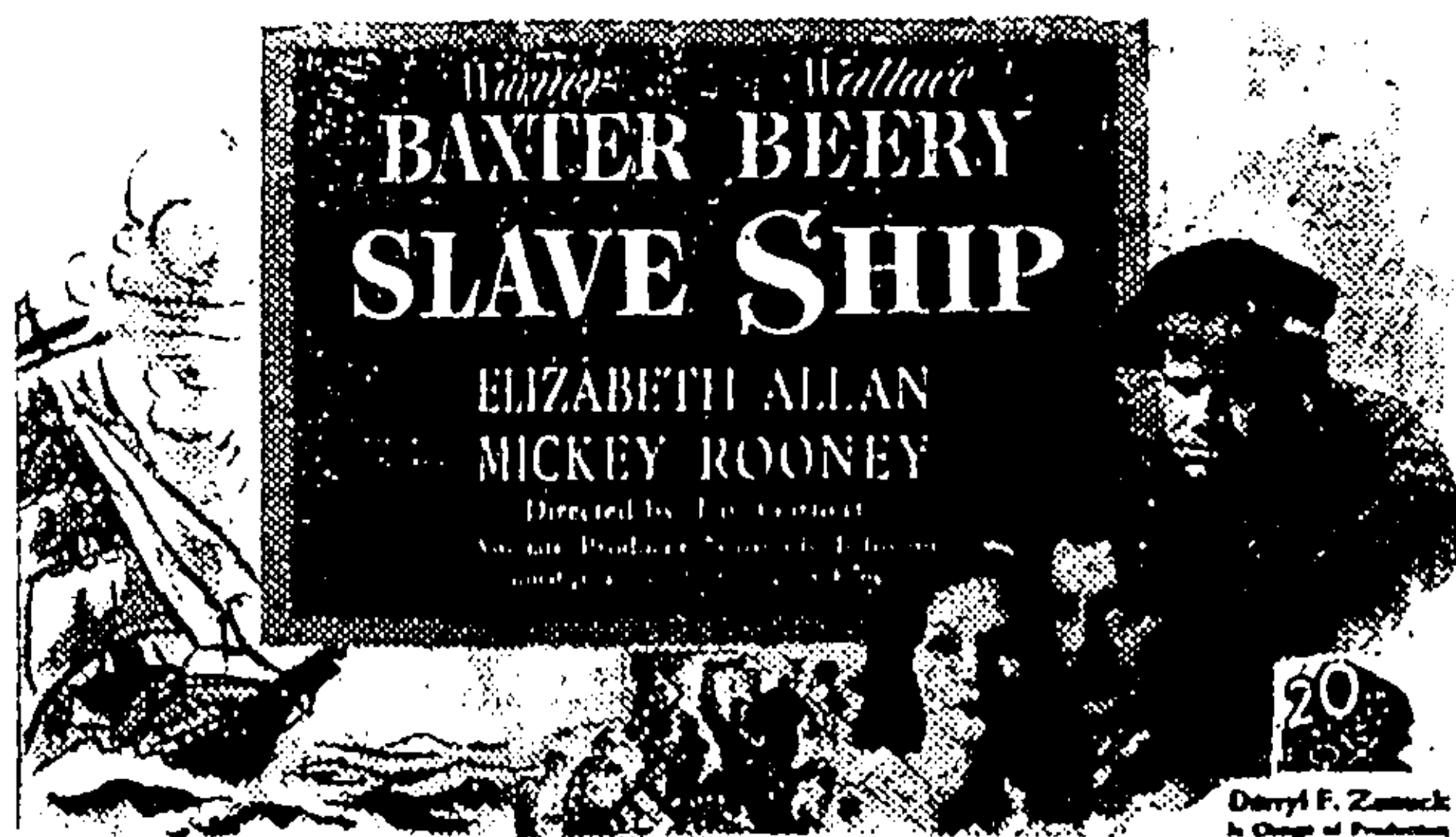
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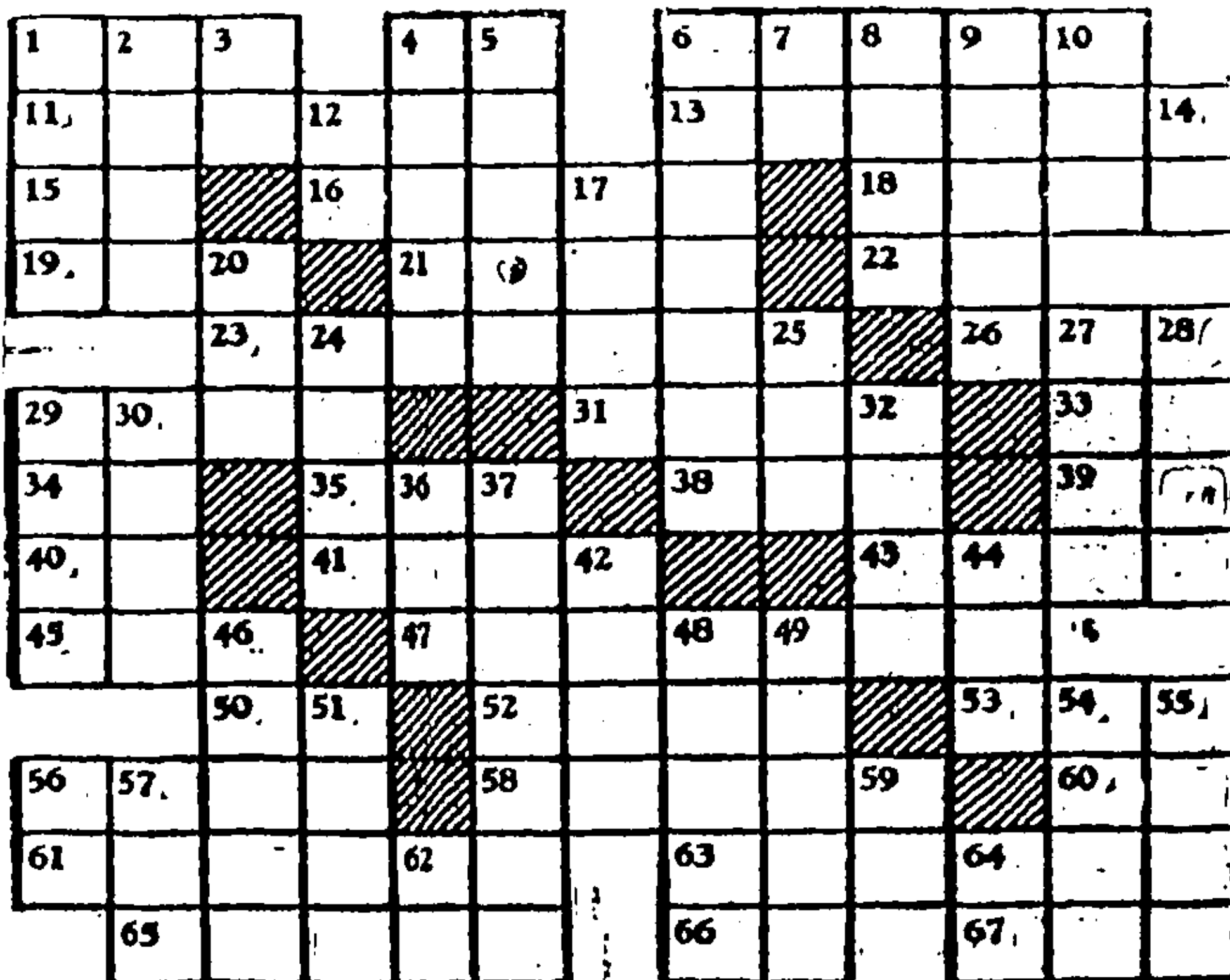
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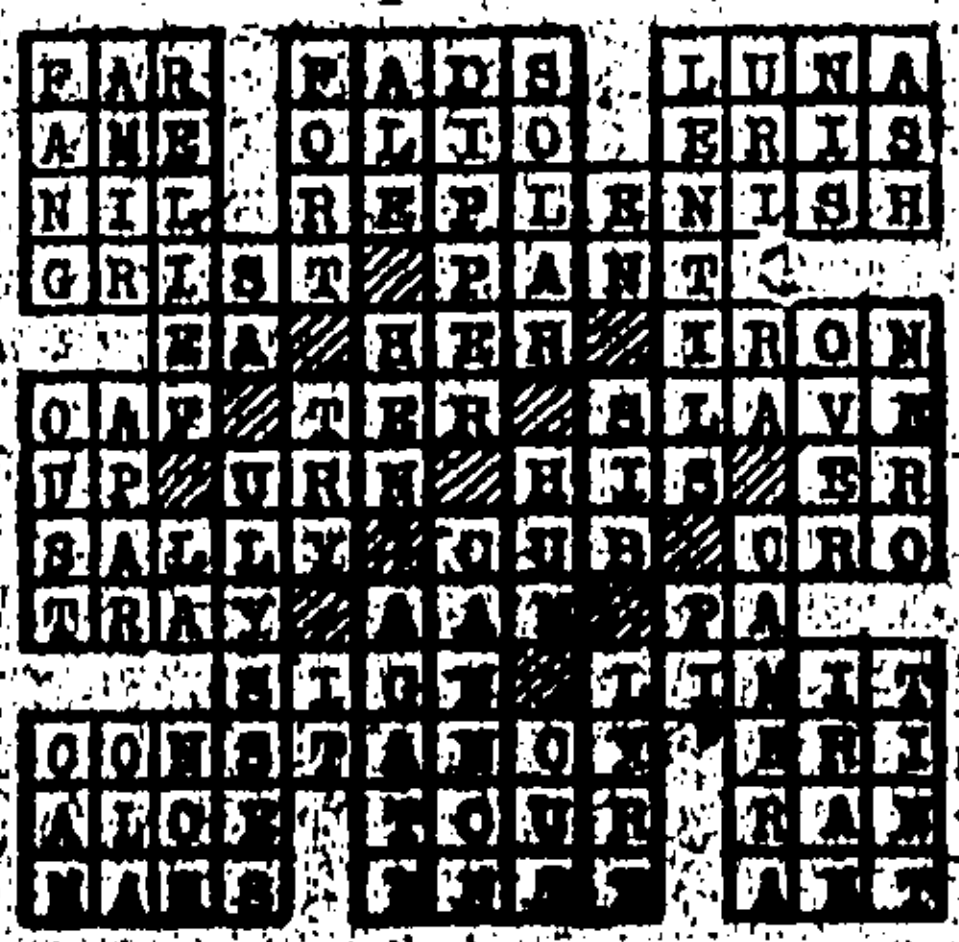


HORIZONTAL
1 Greek letter
4 While
6 Destroyed
11 Peruvian animal
13 Is available
15 Note of scale
18 Muffled
19 City in Nevada
21 Beverage
22 To become fatigued
23 Symbol for actinium
24 Stripped the blubber from
26 Label
29 Stringed instrument
31 To give forth
33 Seal
34 King of Bashan
35 Worm
38 Nahoor sheep
39 City in Chaldaea
40 Indian mulberry
41 Chair
43 Fork-tailed gull
45 To colour
47 To forbear
50 Artificial language
53 Poet
55 Swimming bird

56 Toward the mouth
58 Alexandrian presbyter
60 Brother of Odin
61 To dislike intensely
63 Intelligent
65 Moslem law
66 Latin conjunction
67 Man's name

VERTICAL
1 Pastry
2 To the sheltered side
3 Preposition
4 Sharp
5 Silk cloth
6 Saves
7 Article
8 River in Russia
9 To build
10 Lair
12 Part of "to be"
14 Therefore
17 Gaelic
20 Astern
24 Dress
25 Upbraid
27 Astringent salt
28 To pierce
29 Burden
30 Repulsive
32 Motor cab
36 Ocean
37 Day of rest
42 Former Russian ruler
44 Girl's name
46 Muse of poetry
48 Moment
49 Crowning
51 German river
54 Part of the eye
55 Old Irish infantryman
58 Hypothetical force
59 To seek
60 Compass point
62 Symbol for samarium
64 Six

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



LUCKY FLIGHT

"Lucky B" flight of the R.A.F. Middle East Command met eighteen of the enemy one evening. There were six R.A.F. aircraft but the Italians lost four and possibly a fifth aircraft.

Next morning "Lucky B" was at it again, five of them meeting seven Italians, of whom five were shot down.

The British Flight Lieutenant, a Londoner, was disappointed in the evening flight. "We were chasing them all over the sky," he said. "There seemed to be clouds of them, but I simply could not get anything in range that night." "Whatever I approached just disappeared and I was left by myself. They just went off towards the ground, relying on their camouflage to get them away."

Next morning however this Flight Lieutenant was engaged against three of the enemy with nobody near them. One of the Italians was going up into the sun, a second was ahead and a third on the Flight Lieutenant's beam. The one ahead was sent spinning down into the sea by a burst going through his wing. The Flight Lieutenant put a burst through the tail of another of his adversaries and the Italian immediately fell spinning to the ground. The third disappeared apparently engaged by another British aircraft.

A visit to these R.A.F. pilots in their desert camp leaves one with the impression that they are supremely confident in their superiority over the enemy. Their one desire is to meet him on every possible occasion.

E. G. M. — NOT O. B. E.!

Among the awards gained recently by members of the W.A.A.F. are two which sometimes give rise to misunderstanding—the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for Gallantry, and the "medal of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service."

Both these awards are in the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire. But neither of them carry the title to the initials "O.B.E." or "M.B.E." These refer to the fourth and fifth classes of the Order, i.e. "Officers" and "Members" respectively, either civil or military.

Holders of the Empire Medal for Gallantry are entitled to place the letters "E.G.M." after their name, "on all occasions when the use of such letter is customary." The Meritorious Service Medal carries no such distinction.

Both the Gallantry and meritorious Service medals are of silver; and are worn on the left side, suspended from a clasp of rose pink ribbon edged with pearl grey and with a vertical pearl grey stripe in the centre.

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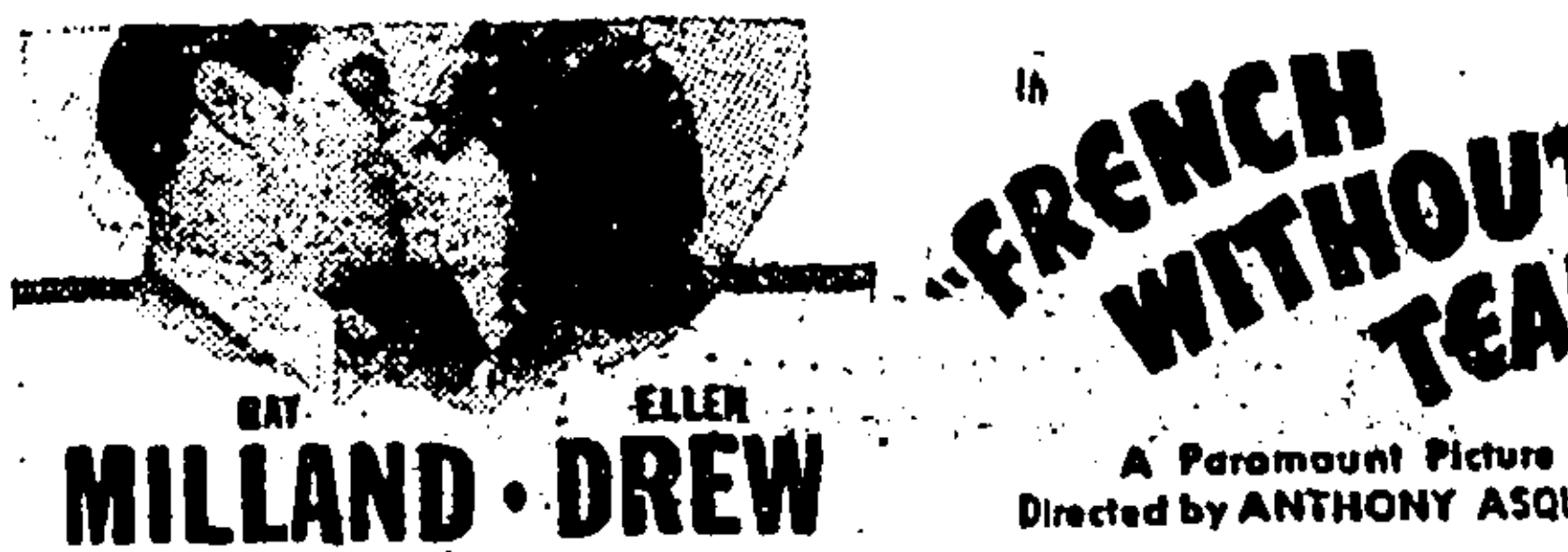
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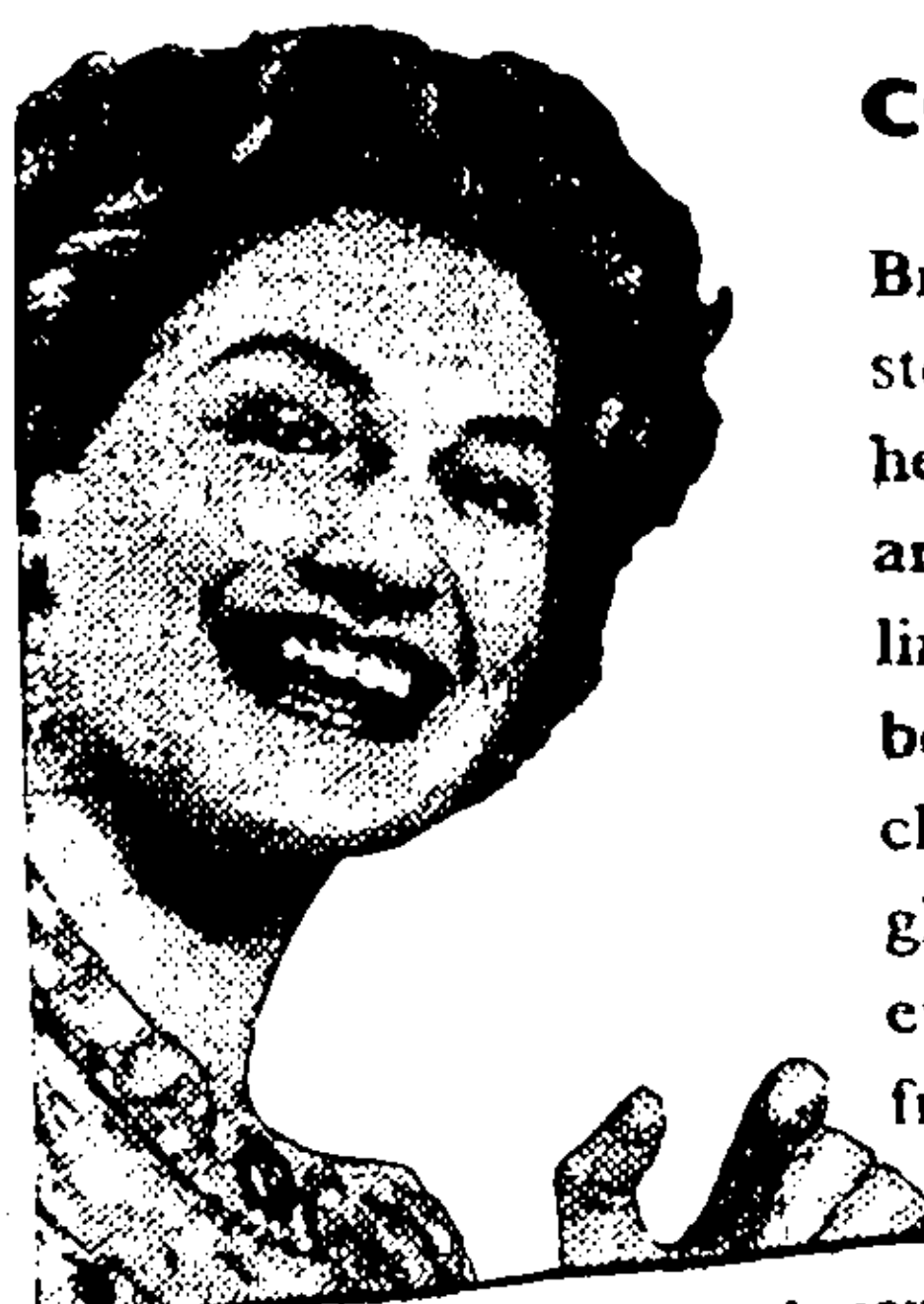
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SUBTLE PARIS "RAGGING" OF NAZIS

(By A Diplomatic Correspondent)

RIDING ROUGHSHOD over the armistice provisions which give Germany only military rights in the territory left to the Vichy Government, the Germans are now pouring thousands of refugees from the Rhineland and Ruhr areas bombarded by the R.A.F. into the valley of the Rhone and other parts of Southern France, where the winter weather is comparatively mild.

Apart from the fact that these people pay a nominal sum for their lodging, there is no pretence of any friendly arrangement being made.

Orders are given to the local mayor, houses must be evacuated by the population within a brief space of time and domestic service provided, and school and other accommodation found.

These people, I learn from an informant who has recently been among them, are dejected, despite their pleasant surroundings. Letters from home speak of fresh damage done and even, in the case of certain districts, of demoralised populations living in the surrounding woods.

From a Paris source, I learn of a second category of refugees. These are Germans who make the British bombing an excuse for coming to France because they are tired of the Nazi regime and mean to settle down permanently on one pretext or another if the Gestapo allows them to do so.

They are therefore trying to establish business connections and to buy houses and other property—at prices which, in view of the artificial rate of exchange, are far below the real value.

An attempt was made a fortnight ago to buy big bank premises on the Champs Elysees, but the owner, a neutral, was able to stand out for payment in his own currency, which no German is allowed to possess.

The view that French morale is improving was confidently expressed to me. There is a feeling that the present situation is an artificial one which cannot last.

Hopes In Britain

Hopes are pinned mainly on the British, and Gen de Gaulle is popular, though not so popular as he would be had he been older and better known during the war in France. He is admired mainly as an intrepid leader and a man without a political record and with a soldier's mind.

The Parisians have now lost their fear, based mainly on a formidable appearance, of the German troops, and find them incredibly stupid and ingenuous.

By "ragging" them in ways too subtle for the German mind the population have done a good deal to undermine German morale. Thus Parisians will commiserate gently with them on their forthcoming trials "when the invasion starts," and say how much they will look back to their stay in France, "which is so peaceful."

A Contrast

The Germans, too, are nonplussed to find the French so comparatively happy and free to express their opinions. This they naturally contrast with the position in their own country, and often draw a moral highly unfavourable to the doctrines which they have been imbued.

As each soldier draws 60 francs a day, about 6s 6d in purchasing value, they can afford what luxuries there are, and once again they regard France as a dream-land, as compared with Germany.

The adventure against England is not a popular subject of conversation, for the French are not slow to point to British resistance so far, "with more, and worse to come if you try to get there."

Circumstantial stories circulate among troops and Germans alike to the effect that two unsuccessful attempts at invasion have already been made, perhaps as a kind of rehearsal or as a strong test raid.

These people whisper to one another, ended in disaster because the German ships ran into a minefield, and before they could extricate themselves fast British motor-boats drew alongside and pumped petrol aboard and on the sea, and later set light to it.

The French hospitals are said to be full of the charred victims and also of German soldiers wounded in the Channel ports by British naval and air attacks.

Fears created by such stories are said to be leading to the continual necessity for superior officers to deny them and call the men to order and a martial bearing and "no fraternising." Hence, in public, the attitude of courtesy at first preserved has been dropped and German behaviour in France is now exactly what it was in Belgium during the last war.

Naturally, this is finding precisely the same reaction among the population, as various incidents reported in the last few days have shown.

Anger Intensified

Their anger is intensified by the fact that the Germans are combining the industrial districts for specialist metal-workers, especially in the aeroplane branch. These are being sent, much against their will, to Germany, just as were the Poles and Czechoslovaks, who had no armistice to safeguard them, even in theory.

Industrial establishments are working short time or are closed because the Germans have taken the machinery away. French aircraft factories are still turning out some engines, but no frames.

The Germans are trying to bribe demobilised French pilots to take over certain routine and training duties, with a view to releasing members of the Luftwaffe for combatant activities. A bonus of 15,000 francs, or about £90, is offered, besides fairly good pay; but I am informed that, with very few exceptions, the offer has always been refused.

TOM MIX CUTS OUT 4 OF HIS WIVES

Tom Mix, the cowboy star of the silent films who was killed in a motor-car accident in Arizona left his "faithful horse and partner, Tony," to his lawyer, Ivon Parker, according to his will.

One rider to the will reads: "I don't desire any of my former wives or my said daughter Ruth Mix in anywise to participate in this will."

His estate is to be divided equally between the widow, Mabel, and one of his daughters, Thomasina Mix Matthews. Tom Mix was married five times.

NAZI PILOT KNEW THIS PUB

A lorry driver was taking a crashed German pilot into Newport, I.O.W., when his passenger said: "Will you pull up at the Blacksmith's Arms at the top of the hill? I could do with a drink."

Harold Blow, the lorry driver, told this story after he had picked up the pilot, a lieutenant, 6ft 2in tall, who had baled out.

"I asked him how he knew where he was, and he replied that he had often been to the island, and knew every inch of it," said Blow.

"He also said that he knew Southampton well, as he used to go there in liners before the war."

"I drove him to my home and gave him a dinner because he said he was very hungry. He thanked me for the food, and then I telephoned the police and the military came for him."



Some of the official guests at the inspection of Hong Kong's A.R.P. personnel at the Football Club ground.

CHINA MAIL
WINDSOR HOUSE

GERMANY'S OIL SUPPLY

That warlike nations without an adequate supply of oil must base their strategy on its acquisition amounts to a truism and Germany, having failed to deliver a quick, knockout blow against Britain while her oil supplies were at their height, is now forced to turn her attention and energy towards ensuring an adequate and continuous flow of this essential commodity. German intrigue in Rumania, culminating in the submission of that country to Nazi rule, was largely undertaken for the purpose of obtaining the entire control of Rumania's 2,231 oil wells. These wells unfortunately from Hitler's point of view, do not completely fill the gap between supply and expenditure. This continued lack can give the key to the German Fuehrer's next step in his war campaign.

The only remaining source of supply which could reach Germany without the need of crossing large expanses of water lies in Iraq and Iran and it is not difficult to assume that Mussolini's African campaign was intended not only as a preliminary step towards the Suez Canal but also towards these much coveted wells. The conquest of Greece would have also simplified the Axis move eastward. Iran alone produces some 10 million tons a year while the Iraq wells are at present only limited by the carrying capacity of the pipe-line to the Mediterranean through Syria and Palestine which handles two million tons annually. Italy's failure to defeat either Greece or the Imperial Forces necessitates some action by Hitler. Whether he will give Italy the requisite aid or stage another direct attack on Britain remains to be seen but it is not surprising under the circumstances that German troops are reported to be massing near the Yugo-Slavian and Hungarian borders and that they are already in Italy.

Germany's oil needs are calculated by the Britannica Year Book to amount to around 13 million tons annually but some American military and economic experts place the amount as high as 25 to 37 million tons of oil a year to win the Axis war. The discrepancy between these two estimates is large and is an illustration of the difficulties experienced in assessing with some degree of accuracy the size and equipment of Hitler's army. It is, however, clear that his supply falls far short of his needs. These are now increased by Italy's requirements, not to mention those countries in East Europe which normally consumed 26 million tons annually. This latter figure will, of course, be ruthlessly cut down but nevertheless, if industry is not to collapse completely their oil reserves must be tapped, however reluctantly. The British Blockade prevents further importation.

To off-set these requirements Germany is said to have a reserve of 6 million tons to which approximately 3 million tons of synthetic and natural oil produced annually in the country can be added. The Rumanian output of roughly 9 million tons is now entirely in German control as well as any exports that Russia is willing to spare. This extent of the latter's help is, however, very problematical. According to a recent announcement by the Soviet Commissar of the Oil Industry, Russia's oil production though better than in 1939 "is not yet sufficient." Russia also needs oil in increasing quantities herself and it is known that her reserves are being jealously guarded. Germany's position, while not yet acute, is thus seen to be far from satisfactory and Hitler's most urgent need, if he hopes to win the war, is to procure a steady flow of this "liquid gold." But where? Perhaps it will be found that oil, or rather the lack of it, will be as great a determining factor as food and morale in the final outcome of the war.

One of the curses of the modern age is narrow nationalism. Countries tend to think in terms of self-sufficiency, of national aims that take no account of the well-being of mankind as a whole. The tendency has been growing for about three hundred years and now found its extreme expression in Nazi Germany.

To the Nazis, Germany is the beginning and the end of everything; nothing that is not German is worthy of consideration. To bolster up this recrudescence of primitive tribal prejudice, German science has been turned into a harlot. She is forced to prostitute her integrity, to repudiate the truths she has helped to reveal, in paying lip-service to the spurious theory of Blood and Race.

Now Morality herself, nothing if not universal, has been shown the door. Her spirit had long been exiled from Nazi Germany, but up to a late hour she was in theory countenanced if not revered. Now even that pretence is dropped. She is banished by official edict and a Gorgon with the face of hell, the new German Morality, desecrates her abandoned altar. "Good is what is good for Germany," proclaims that well-named Priest of Falsehood, Dr. Ley. "Bad is what does not suit Germany's end."

This is the guiding spirit of the hordes that have over-run the greater part of continental Europe, a Europe where once Erasmus wandered freely to spread his liberal doctrines, where Pascal, Diderot and Voltaire were once honoured from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and where students once journeyed from the Carpathians to Paris, from Brittany to Bonn, to imbibe the universal learning.

When this is what patriotism gone mad has brought about, I shall be understood when I say that I am not a patriot. But I have deeper reasons for knowing that even sane patriotism is "not enough." I do not believe that a man is necessarily a better man because he is an Englishman, an American, a Dutchman, a Chinese, or a Malay. I do not believe that any one country produces a constant standard of human beings, or can claim that its political system or method of life approaches perfection, that any one country can claim to impose its way of thought or its institutions on the rest of the world. We are under the moral obligation of taking the good where the good is to be found, irrespective of nation, and we are under the moral obligation of sharing those material resources of the world necessary to all nations, so that individual countries may enjoy their own method of life in prosperity and peace.

I firmly stand by the idea of universality. We must refuse to accept a man as a man or a woman as a woman by the mere fact that they carry a British passport. In the same way we should refuse to reject a man or a woman on the mere ground of their nationality. They must be judged in the light of universal values as men and women. These are the standards which I know decent Englishmen accept. Precautions in a war emergency are beside the point. It is only when fear or interest appeal to the tribal spirit latent in all of us that we are tempted to depart from them.

It is only the basest amongst us who would have us believe that mere nationality is enough. Our affection and our admiration must stand free to be claimed by those who merit it by the standards of humanity. We must be free to criticise the community to which we belong and to adopt what is found good from outside. Prejudices we have and cannot wholly escape from but they are no guide to judgment and, if we are to retain our integrity, they must be kept in their place.

This is the extent to which I am an internationalist. But I am aware that in the present state of the world's development we are far from the position when we can stand alone as individuals, as citizens of the world. As individuals we are feeble voices crying

in the wilderness. Mankind is by history and geography and other natural forces divided into units leading a corporate life. And just as cells must adhere to the body, to one of these organisms called nations we must belong. We must have a country to which we owe allegiance. Whether we like it or not we are units of some nation.

And, for better or for worse, I am an Englishman. And claiming my rights as an Englishman, I would ask you to bear with me while I give you my mere personal views as to where England stands to-day. And by you I mean not only the British overseas, but those who are local-born and yet share the British heritage and belong to the British tradition.

I find that there is much to lament in the state of modern England. We fought a grim war a quarter of a century ago for our survival and after the sacrifice of a million of our youth, this war we won. But we did not fully

(A talk by
VICTOR PURCELL
broadcast from
Singapore)

realise the responsibilities of our victory. We did not play the part we might have played in erecting a new international order. Other nations were indeed at fault but we fell back after too feeble a struggle on the old rough and ready idea of the balance of power. Nor did we recognise that the internal structure of England was full of timbers rotted by age and we were called upon by our sense of security, if nothing else, to rebuild our English social order. We relaxed too readily into the old game of party politics.

This was partly the result of our English tradition of compromise. We have always been opposed to violent change, and it has been our remarkable faculty to accept so much change as will avert revolution. This was our tolerance. But our tolerance, resistant at the same time to new ideas, has in some respects led us astray. We have been too much inclined to *laissez faire*. Thus we allowed the worst forces of the industrial revolution to range with little check over the fair face of England. I need refer only to the things that strike the eye. The slums of our great industrial cities do us no credit. Our tolerance of ribbon development—ugly tentacles of jerry-built hutchies unfit for man—has placed the ancient beauty of our countryside in jeopardy; our reluctance to plan has deprived our towns of unity. Where once was an approach to architectural form is now a jumble of pseudostyles. We have been content to become citizens of mean cities.

These are the more obvious signs of decline since the Great War. But the decline had started long before then. We can trace it with the English defection from the arts. There was a time when England was a musical country; it had its folk ballads, its madrigals and dances on the village green. There was a time when an Englishman who claimed to be educated had to be able to sing a catch or play an air on his lute or guitar. Pepys, that very typical Englishman and civil servant used, we may remember, to play the lute on the leads of his house in the cool of the evening. England in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had its schools of painting that were full of promise. There was a time when the Englishman did not despise literature and learning. If he canvassed his affections for the classics he would not be socially damned as "highbrow." It has been epigrammatically said that a battle was fought in the nineteenth century between the barbarians and the philistines. The philistines won. Be this as it may, it is true to say that in the age between the two great wars—except for a few freaks or poseurs—Englishmen accepted their music ready made from the trans-oceanic jazz factories, painting

was either a ramp or a dead art, and literature was snowed under by cartloads of murder or escapist trash.

I am sorry to harp on these unpopular subjects but to me they symbolise the worst side of England.

I may sound a little un-English in my critical approach to the English scene. But I think that for this very reason I am able to see the virtues of Englishman in plainer colours than the more typical Englishman with his ready acceptances and his innate modesty is able to do. Let me then presume.

I have travelled in many countries and have received much kindness and hospitality, but nowhere have I found a country where kindness and good manners are so much the fabric of the common nature as in England. London bus conductors and policemen, for instance, and railwaymen throughout the country, blunt and direct as they may be on rare occasions, seem to me as a class to be in the finest tradition of chivalry. They are, considering the trials of their calling, almost incredibly helpful and polite. Fools might call them servile, but I know better. You will find the same spirit throughout the length and breadth of England. You may enquire your way to Wiltshire from a yokel trimming a hedge, you may beg a tow for your becalmed sailing boat from a Yorkshire fisherman, you may knock at a cottage window when benighted on the Devonshire moors. Allowing for time and place, for the precaution of self-preservation, you will meet with the most astonishing kindness and helpfulness. Nor are these just specious qualities—they go deep down into the nature of the English people. It is easy to be charitable when you are wealthy, but among the poor of England you will find the pure generosity of sacrifice, of mutual help, and the silent and willing sharing of common suffering to a degree you would not have imagined possible. The greatest of the cardinal virtues is at home in England.

Then there is reliability. We may grumble and scheme, and even backbite—but we trust one another as a whole. The other day I read that a foreman air expert had prophesied that when the German Luftwaffe came down on England the R.A.F. would crumple up. Of course they did not crumple up, but on what could this air expert have based such a strange prophecy? I cannot think. All I know is that during the dark days of May, June and after, I took stock quite calmly of every calamity that might befall England. But it never occurred to me—or to any other Englishman—that the R.A.F., the Army, the Navy, or the civilian population would "crumple up" even under the most terrific onslaughts. Was the omission to think of this possibility due to patriotism or blind faith? No, it was due to solid experience. I had the honour of commanding English troops in the last war and I know their mettle. They grouse and make cynical remarks about everything and everybody but they do not "crumple up." They do not swagger and swashbuckle and say what they are going to do to the enemy, and then when the time comes shout for their mothers. I have seen them in the Ypres Salient when the place was a sea of mud, every tree was shattered, and the so-called trenches ran through a charnel house. I have seen them going over the top at dawn, I have seen them as prisoners of war in Germany, ragged and without food. I would trust them anywhere. As for the civilian population in this war, we have only to read our letters from home to see how they are "taking it." I have just received a cable from a seventy-seven year old father telling me to "keep my tail up." If he can keep "his tail up" among the bombing area I am sure I can keep mine up among the fleshpots of Singapore. I trust the English, and I say so because I know.

Then there is fairness of mind. Englishmen distrust new ideas

they distrust foreign innovations. But they do try to be fair. I have often been surprised and amused to see Englishmen—middle-class Englishmen, that is, the kind that you meet in P. & O.'s—striving to consider with dispassion the ferocious views of some rebel or other who would dynamite the whole nation of them—or so he says. Amongst the citizens of almost any other nation such a rebel would have been thrown out of the door, or overboard, at the very least. But not with the English. They are almost inhumanly tolerant, both to their enemies and the interests that exploit them. But fairness of mind is not a virtue to be despised.

Tied up with these qualities is English humour. It is unique in the world. It is a compost of benevolence and sardonic realism. It is the lubricant that oils all life. It makes equal capital of the sacred and the profane. There is a philosophy tied up with it too of which at least one ingredient is humility. Examples of this humour are enshrined in our literature from Chaucer to W.W. Jacobs, and it is still vital amongst us. It helps us along. I remember in the trenches in 1916 asking a sergeant I had not seen for some time what he thought of the war. "They do say, sir," he replied, "that the first seven years is the worst." That is what I call sardonic realism.

These qualities stand out in high relief whenever I think of Englishmen, and though they constitute no inventory of the good that can be found in them, they may stand as symbols on which I build my patriotism.

Then there is the country itself; the product of the English spirit working on the gifts of a bountiful nature. I love the rich brown earth, I love the rolling uplands of ploughland or pasture and the fertile plains, I love the woods of comely trees carpeted with primroses, cowslips, and anemones. I love the moorland and the lakes. The music of English birds is to me beyond all other natural music: the smell of the earth, the hedgerow, the haystack, and the byre, renew the desire to live in me in all its fullness. An English cottage, deep gabled and/or-brick of opulent ancient red, surrounded with a garden of roses, pansies and stocks, of potatoes, onions, lettuce, mint, and sage is to me, as to many other Englishmen abroad, the setting for the ideal autumn of life. Can there be anything grander than the cathedrals of England with their high-arched dim interiors broken by variegated light and their aspiring towers and pinnacles, anything more comely and dignified than the eighteenth-century houses that grace our older city squares? And the weather of England? That is the weather that brings out all the springs of our character. Not only the caressing and serene, the boisterous and the bracing, but the wet and chilling, when icicles linger in the wagon ruts, and sleeping nature is seen as through a veil, is the weather that breathes life. The soil, the hills and valleys, the weather, the circumstances, the sea are the forces that have formed the nature of England, and from which her rich language, her tolerance, her humour, and her fairness have sprung.

From lament I have passed to rhapsody, and the two are not inconsistent. We are often most critical of the things we love.

It is England I have spoken of rather than Britain, partly because the word Britain for a denizen of these isles still sounds stilted, and partly because it is England I belong to and which I best know. But I would not have it understood that I ignore the virtues of Scotland, Ireland and Wales. As you will see, I hope, this love of mine for England is not at variance with the internationalism of which I have spoken—the willingness to accept the best where the best is to be found, the willingness to apply standards impartially, and the willingness to live in peace and understanding on a basis of equality with the other nations of the earth.

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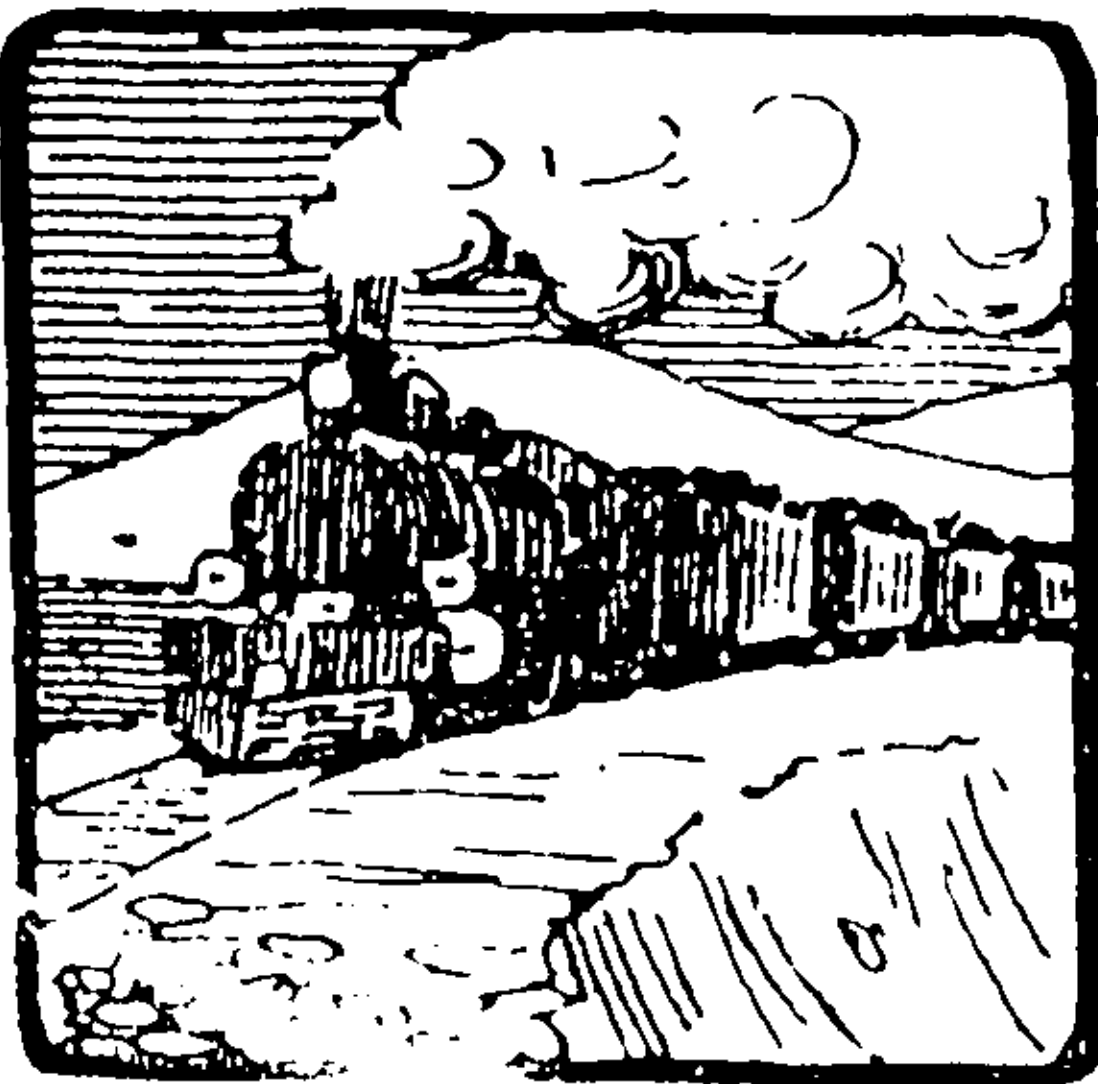
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WOMAN'S WILL POWER SAVES A WHOLE FAMILY

(By A Special Correspondent)

MOTHER, DAUGHTER and son, trapped in the basement of their bomb-wrecked home, were saved after rescue squads had tunnelled under four houses.

But they were only freed because a sister insisted that they were in the basement. Officials had believed that no one was under the wreckage.

After the house was hit Mrs. A. Beale almost wept for joy as she heard the sound of shovels and picks striking wreckage.

She did not know that it was a demolition squad at work, unaware that anyone was trapped in the vicinity.

"No One Here"

Then the sound of someone moving overhead reached the three occupants of the dark, dust-filled room.

To their horror the family heard a voice faintly in the distance say, "It's all right, there's no one here; they were all evacuated before the raid."

The frantic mother and her daughter, aged seventeen, shouted for help, but their cries were not heard.

Mr. Beale, the husband, had left the shelter for a few minutes before the bomb fell, but has since been reported missing.

Ironically, Mrs. Beale, her daughter Irene and her son John could hear the demolition squad still working, salvaging the furniture, only a hundred yards away.

Mother and daughter shouted themselves hoarse, but the hours dragged by until they had been trapped for ten hours. They had no food or water.

Scent As Reviver

Bravely, Mrs. Beale tried to keep up the spirits of her son, aged six, and daughter.

Irene, with a tiny bottle of scent she found in her handbag, bathed the foreheads of her mother and little brother to soothe them.

But outside, by a miracle, the sister of Mrs. Beale, who had heard of the damage, was telling the demolition squad that she was certain that her sister and children were among the wreckage.

For a time no one believed her, for the area had been officially evacuated, but the woman had pleaded with them.

The captain of the squad gave the order and the rescue workers began to tunnel through four houses to get to the basement.

To their amazement they found the family exhausted and suffering from shock, but still alive.

"Leave Us The Light"

Mr. A. W. Brown, one of the rescue squad, told a reporter:

"When we first made the hole in the wall and shone a torch through Mrs. Beale cried, 'For heaven's sake leave us the light'."

"It was fourteen hours after they had been trapped before we got them out. All of them were overjoyed."

"The little boy, who had been very brave, said, 'Thank you, mister,' when we lifted them out."

"Mrs. Beale said that the worst part of their ordeal was when they heard people near them saying there was no one in need of help."

"It was like being buried alive." Mr. Beale, who had apparently left the shelter and intended to return has not yet been traced.

Mrs. Beale and her family are now staying with friends in another London district.

THREAT OF COLD SHOWER

The fire brigade was called out last night to assist a police constable in arresting an alleged thief, who, after being threatened with a cold shower from one of the hoses, surrendered himself.

The man was alleged to have been one of the four robbers who dragged a woman to the rear of No. 190, Prince Edward Road and there stripped her of her belongings, valued at \$27.

The woman raised an alarm when the men decamped and the constable, patrolling nearby, rushed to the rescue, chasing the men in the direction of Shek Kip Mei Village.

One of the men jumped into the nullah between Prince Edward Road and Boundary Street, but was observed by a pursuing constable who stopped and ordered him to come out.

The man refused and the constable instructed spectators to summon the fire brigade, members of which, after threatening to turn the hose on him, compelled him to climb out and surrender.

SOCIETY GIRL WEDS BANDIT FREED AFTER SIX YEARS

Society beauty Miss Ethel Barrett, of St. Louis, has wed Edward G. Dillon, notorious robber, after waiting six years for his release from Sing Sing.

When Dillon passed through the prison gates, free at last, Miss Barrett stepped from her limousine and ran into his arms. Known as the Top Hat Robber, Dillon committed seventy-four hold-ups in fashionable Chicago homes and many thefts in exclusive New York night clubs and hotels.

When he was sentenced Miss Barrett publicly proclaimed her love for him. "As soon as he's freed I shall be his wife," she said.

Aged thirty-five, he has spent fourteen years in prisons.

LATE LORD LOTHIAN'S EFFORTS

Sir Walter Layton, the well-known economist, who has just returned to Britain from a Government mission in the United States in relation to supplies from that country, spoke yesterday of the last fortnight in the life of Lord Lothian, Ambassador in Washington.

Lord Lothian was particularly preoccupied with the financial position and had been criticised in some quarters in both countries for having spoken bluntly about the dollar position when he landed from the Clipper in America after his recent brief visit home.

Sir Walter said he knew Lord Lothian had deliberately made up his mind, having given the matter great thought, when held up at Lisbon before crossing the Atlantic, that American opinion ought to be prepared for the fact that the financial problem had to be regularised.

He was certain that his judgment was correct and this view had been amply justified by recent statements of President Roosevelt regarding his own solution of the dollar exchange problem arising out of British war supply orders placed in the U.S.

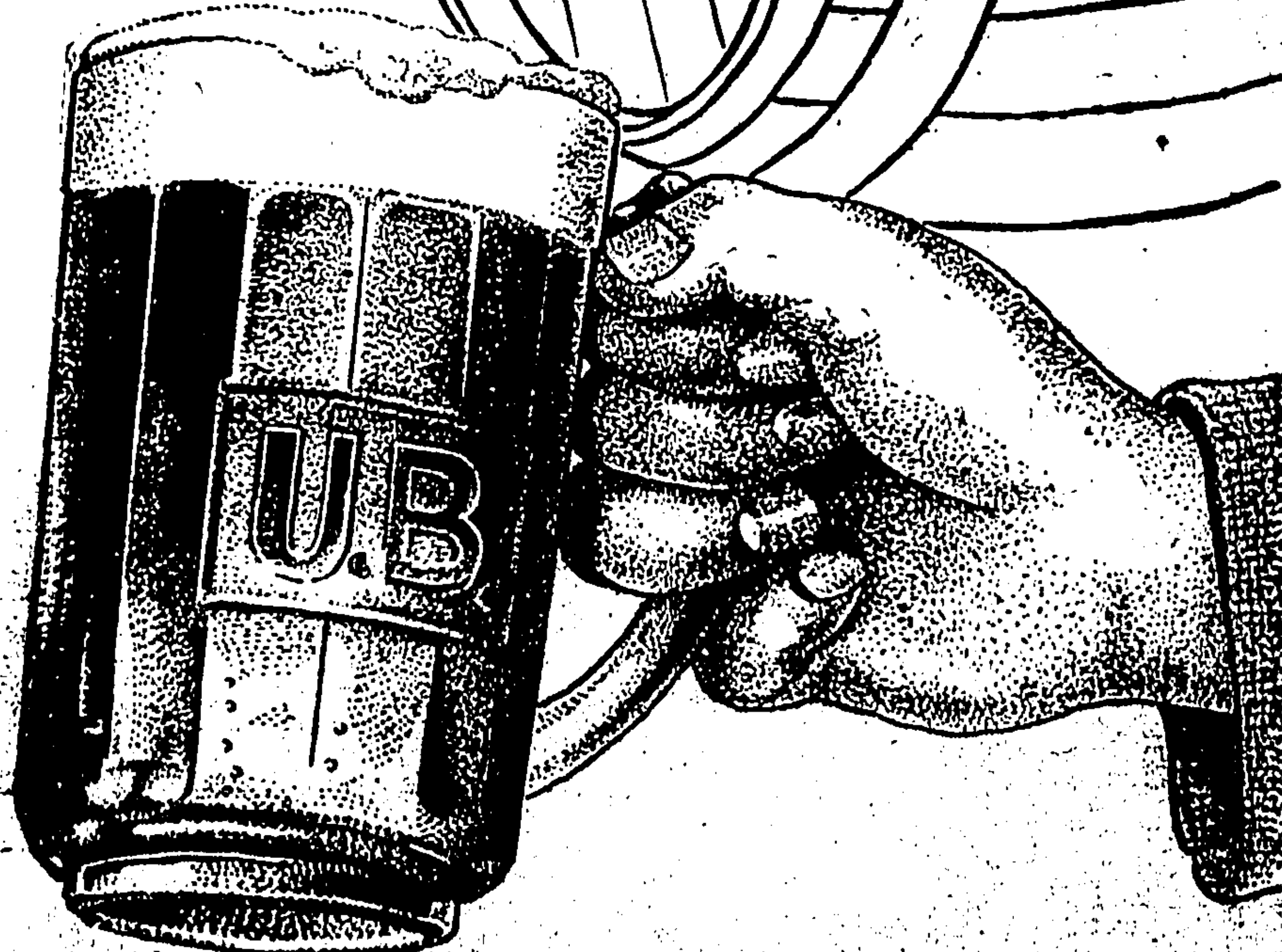
American Moods

Sir Walter added that in November there was a certain feeling of pessimism in America about the outcome of the war, to which such episodes as the bombing of Coventry had contributed, but this had been completely changed by the news of Greek victories and the British in Egypt.

The resistance of the British people to the bombing of English towns had created a stupendous effect in the United States. Sir Walter concluded that the British must not expect miracles. The full effect of American production would make ultimate victory certain. — British Wireless.

U.B. BEER

LIGHT & DARK

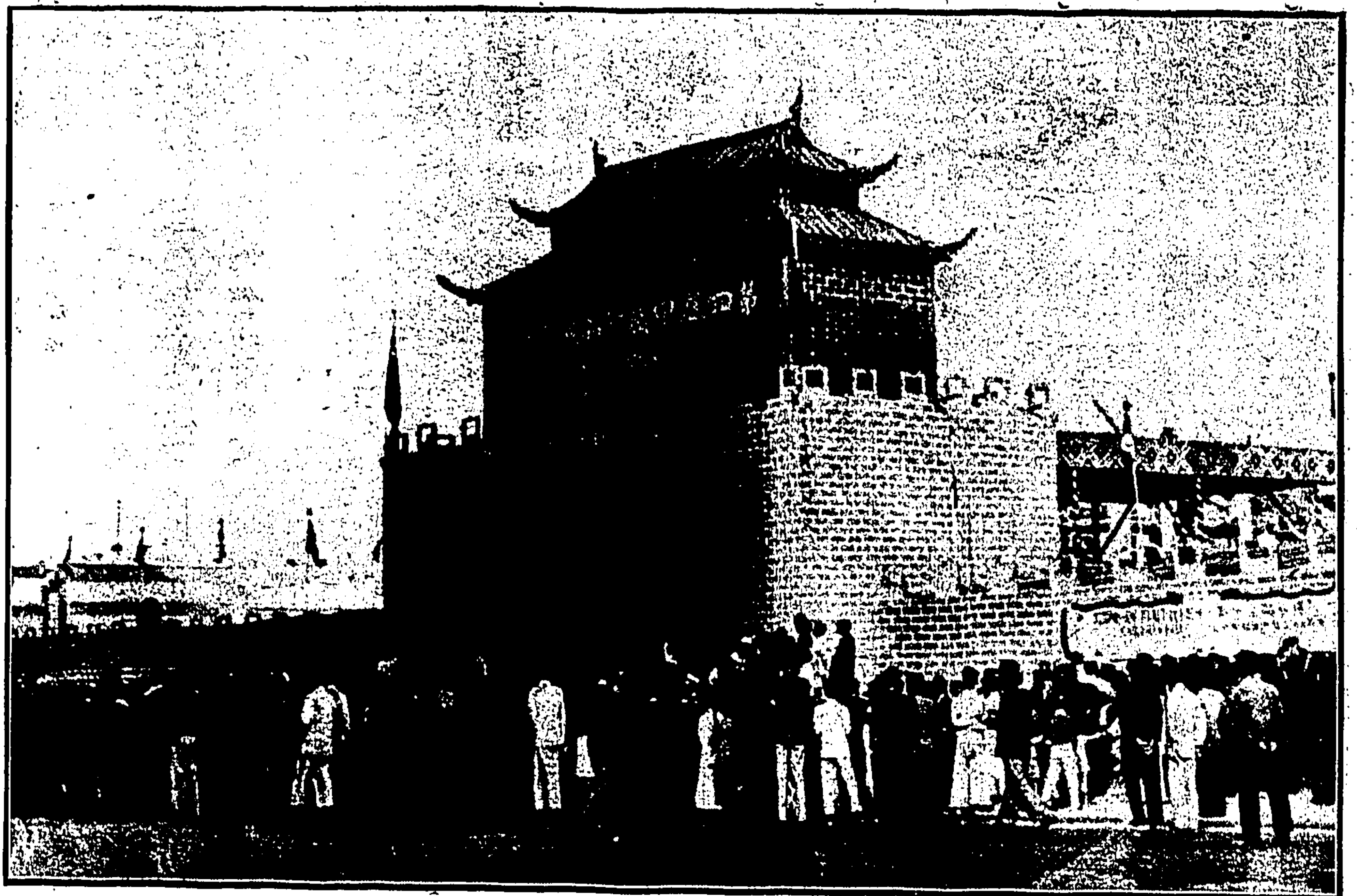


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(At Left)—His Excellency the Acting Governor cutting the tape on opening day of the China Products Exhibition.



The official group photograph at the opening of the China Products Exhibition.



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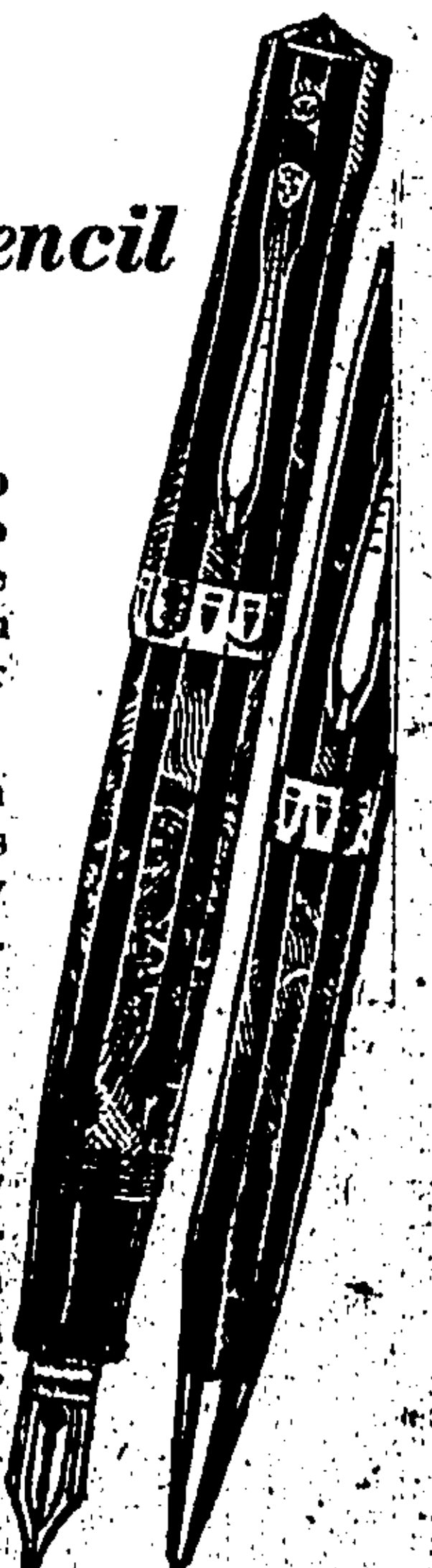
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SHORT STORY

TINNED MEAT

By L. T. Hamilton

OWING to the unfriendly activities of one of her powerful neighbours, the Government of the Republic of Neustria decided to send its ace investigator to the Embassy in London, where he would be listed as assistant military attaché.

This Intelligence agent was known to his comrades-in-arms as Captain Barra. He was dark of hair and sun-burnt of complexion, not above the average in height with a knack of passing in the crowd in spite of an individual cast of features. I should have put him down as a Basque, but he was English, from one of the home counties, in fact.

He had been wandering about Europe, a young man with an expensive education, no particular training, and very little money. By one of those chances of Fate, he had saved the Premier of Neustria from the bullets of a half-wit. That statesman, finding that Barra (as his name really was) was a good linguist and had had some military training both at school and in the Territorials, put him in the Neustrian Army for a start and then had him sent on confidential missions until the young man proved himself cool and reliable. Barra was then transferred to the General Staff, X Branch, and visited foreign countries with malice aforethought. He was also rough on rats, as many enemy agents discovered to their cost.

A likeable fellow when not on the prod was Barra. I was dining with him in Paris when he received the news of his appointment. "More trouble," he sighed, "and I was so happy here. Nothing to do except visit the Ministry for War. You know that the French and we work hand in hand, of course." I was Barra's only confidant. There were certain reasons for this which would take too long to explain. I was annoyed when young Blakesley strolled over to our table, flanked by two cuties, one a dazzling blonde and the other a raven black.

He had been imbibing, but was not blotto. "Hello, you two. Why? Barra I have not seen you for donkeys' years. I'm throwing a party and you are in it. The bubbly is on me." He spoke to the pretties in French and they turned out to be Ysolde de Something or the other and Liane de Quelque Chose. These were their war-names, let it be understood. In reality they were not patricians, but they were very attractive girls.

Barra said: "All right, I'm free until to-morrow evening, so if you want to make it a 24-hour sitting lead me to it. 'It's a go,' shouted Blakesley. 'We will do all the joints. Glad I met you. Where do we go from here?'"

That started it. Paris is regaining its pre-war night life and there are scores of cabarets and night clubs which only get lively at midnight.

Blakesley confided to us that he had made a big coup. He had landed an enormous contract for his firm and had been paid part of his commission in advance. He was also to receive a handsome bonus for introducing new business to his firm, an internationally known firm of wholesale provision merchants who dealt in government contracts, among other things.

Barra grew more and more bored as Blakesley told us how he had met an aristocratic old gentleman on the way back from Buenos Ayres who had turned out to be a big noise in the Valdanian Government. Now Valdania was the powerful and unfriendly neighbour of Neustria, and I grew interested, but not Barra, who applied himself to the wine and to whispering naughty nothings to Ysolde and Liane in turn.

The old gentleman had a mania for the old-fashioned card game of pinocchio, bezique as we call it in England. He liked to gamble on it. Now Blakesley had learnt the game from a wealthy maiden aunt, and he sat in as the old gentleman's partner at a game called Auction Bezique, which is really a very skillful and interesting form of gambling.

The o.g. was delighted with him and one evening asked him what he did for a living. The young man

Englishman told him and the o.g., rattling his winnings in his pocket, or, to be more correct, rustling the notes, said: "I'll put some business your way. See me in the main library at ten a.m."

Blakesley was there with bells on, as he phrased it, and received an order for tinned meat that took his breath away. He had to wireless both London and Buenos Ayres before he could accept it. "We are chartering special steamships. It's the biggest order the firm's ever had and the first from Valdania."

"Money all right?" I asked rather cynically, but then some governments do not like paying cash.

"Okie Dokie," answered our host. "Twenty per cent. in advance and the rest to be paid, part on shipment, part on delivery. Boys, you see before you a rising young business man. The firm has put my salary up, quadrupled it, and my commission alone from this deal will give me capital enough to retire on if I wanted. Also, they have put my commission up for further deals. Yoicks, boys, yoicks."

Barra made an excuse: "I've got to slip out for a few minutes. I'll be back without fail. This drinking is just getting interesting."

The girls had to be reassured that he was returning and when they had been pacified and Barra had left us, Blakesley turned to me and said: "Not a word of this, mind you. I know it would make a good newspaper story, but I'll hand you something big when I get permission from London."

We had been talking in English, and it was pretty certain that neither of the girls had the faintest suspicion of what Blakesley had told us. They knew a little English, just enough to make a casual visitor buy them a bottle of champagne and other trifles. Barra only knew Barra as a foreigner who spoke good English, like many other Continental officers who have been partly educated in Britain or had English tutors at home.

He had no knowledge of Barra's connection with any form of secret service. In fact, my friend from Neustria was supposed to be in Paris to attend courses at the Senior School of War.

Our friend returned and applied himself to the wine and eventually proved himself to be the life and soul of the party. He had the girls in fits. Blakesley, who speaks French very well, was laughing till the tears rolled down his face, and others joined us, Prince Sabine, the handsome ex-Cossack leader; Vera, his wife, who earned the family living by singing at the Pink Dog; Rowland, of the Transatlantic Press Syndicate; Lawrence, of the London Briton; De Vasseur, that most charming of boulevardiers, and one of the cleverest all-round men I have ever met.

It was Vasseur who insisted we should be his guests at the new Miramar, in which he had a large interest. This place, which only opened at midnight, was decorated in Mexican style, the waiters wore vacueta clothes of black velvet decorated with silver, and the cigarette and chocolate girls were decked out as Mexican belles on a baile day.

It was a new fashion which had caught the fickle fancy of the Parisian rich Bohemia, and seats were difficult to obtain in the supper-room. Prices were exorbitant. In the usual course of events I would not have dared set foot in the show, even allowing for the fact that the French franc is 179 to the £ and I drew my earnings from England and so won on the exchange.

Vasseur had visited Mexico, where his family had vast financial interests, in order to bring back some señoritas who could certainly dance. He had designed their costumes himself, improving on the local cut and colour, and the way they performed the Habanera was enough to provoke St. Anthony himself.

Vasseur was always generous and always tactful. He knew that the Sabrines were poor, so he

could hear the hooves of the cavalry hordes charging across the plain, the clash of steel, the bitter sorrow that comes after battle. When she came down from the little stage reserved for vocalists and soloists, the crowd went mad. She had "got across," as stage folk say. Vasseur kissed her on the cheeks, then turned to her husband and asked his permission; that was the Frenchman's way. "Vera, my charming, you must leave that canine resort, the Pink Dog. You must come here. Excuse me talking business, but there is no time like the present. I will have the manager draw up a contract, which you will sign before you dare to leave." Then in a low voice which I could not help overhearing, he mentioned a figure that left the handsome Russian gaping. Tears filled her eyes. "But it means comfort, freedom from worry, oh, many things I cannot express." "Then do not try, Madame la Princesse," replied Vasseur, with a courteous inclination of the head.

We finished that party at ten in the morning. At two in the afternoon I was roused by Barra, spick-and-span in Bond-street tweeds, clear-eyed and alert.

"You must have a head like a rhinoceros or a hippopotamus, or both of them," I grumbled. "Rise and shine," he ordered me. "I have a job of work for you. Get leave of absence from the rag in which you perpetrate your inanities and do what I tell you, and you will have plenty of tobacco in your old tobacco box."

I was due for a spot of holiday anyhow, and London was quite agreeable to my leaving my French assistant in charge of our Paris Office.

"Come with me to London," said Barra after I had eaten, with some difficulty, a species of late lunch.

We took the afternoon plane to Croydon, and I motored with Barra to the Embassy. "Wait here," said my friend, "I must see his Excellency and procure funds and papers."

He kept me waiting an hour and a half, then came out grinning. "All set, we leave for Hamburg as soon as possible. I want to pick up some technical gear there. Here is your passport, you are temporarily a citizen of Neustria. Your name is Martin and you are a Professor of History of the Central University travelling to enlarge your mind. I am a certain Volche, a research chemist, from the University staff, travelling for more technical reasons. We are both poor and honest, but not too poor and not too honest. Do you get me?"

"Yes, I suppose so," I murmured doubtfully.

In Hamburg Barra put me to drinking with a burly, black-bearded deep sea skipper, a Dutchman, with a marvellous capacity for rum and schnapps. He had a very high opinion of Barra, but of few other people.

My friend appeared the night the Dutchman was sailing for La Plata. He ordered a heavy package to be delivered on the skipper's steamship, and then informed me that we were sailing with the Dutchman, nominally as members of the crew, but in reality as passengers. "But what about the paper?" I gasped.

"Oh, that is all arranged. I telephoned your editor whom I met last year, and he says that if you come back alive your job will be still open to you, but that if you get into trouble you can be hanged, shot or merely drowned as far as he cares."

"That's consoling."

We anchored off a wharf some way from Buenos Ayres and case after case of seven-pound tins of what Tommy Atkins calls bully beef were loaded in the hold. There were several obnoxious Valdanians attached to the crew, undoubtedly as guards, but they were badly piled with rum and so did not do much in the way of guard duties. I hardly saw Barra during this period. He was busy all night together with a ruffianly crew who certainly were not the stevedores who had been loading the cargo. Although dirty, unshaven and rough, they were of a higher type.

I was with Barra, however,

when he wined the crowd of them in a posada the night before we sailed. He paid out good money to them and left the chief ruffian a number of demijohns of some liquid, instructing him not to allow any of the band to drink it.

"We jumped ship" at Port Said on the return journey. Already there was a rather nauseating odour pervading the ship, which was otherwise as clean a vessel as I have seen of its kind. It surprised me that the Dutch skipper paid no attention to this odour and, when I mentioned it, merely winked and said it was my imagination and the fumes of rum mixed. So thereafter, I held my tongue. I guessed rightly enough that Barra had been up to some villainy.

I reported back to Fleet Street, bronzed and fit as a fiddle, also with a comfortable sum of money in my possession which Barra had paid me for what he was pleased to call "my moral assistance." He said that I made a perfect Professor of History; in fact, he would advise the Neustrian Government to give me a Chair in the subject.

The managing editor received me somewhat in the manner the governor of a Borstal Institution would welcome a runaway. "Do you see this?" he barked, and threw me over a message from our man at Pellara, the capital of Valdania.

"Grave scandal of War Office Contracts. Reserve supplies of tinned meat found to be putrid. The War Office has recently purchased from a firm of international repute a vast consignment of Argentine tinned meat. The supplies were examined before shipping and were, apparently, in good condition on arrival. An issue was made to troops on manoeuvres along the Neustrian frontier and the meat was found to be rotten. It had seemingly been contaminated by some ergsive chemical."

"I think you had better go back to Paris and say nothing about your expedition to South America," said the Chief. "We cannot have our correspondent mixed up in such matters." Then he smiled: "You damned saboteur, I knew that young Barra would be up to some monkey trick or the other. Anyway, you have probably averted war. The Valdanians were all armed and raring to go, but they have no meat unless they slay cattle, and they would have to buy from Russia if they want to make trouble before Winter sets in. Get out of my sight and for goodness sake send me some news. None of your cabaret dope." So I departed for Paris, leaving Barra at the Embassy where I had dined with his Excellency the Neustrian ambassador to the Court of St. James', who gave me a capital news-story as a sort of bonus for my efforts.

Both the second and third consignments of meat of the Valdanian Army were found to be contaminated. Unfortunately, a government, anxious to prove its good faith and to stand in well with the British interests, had paid the bill; now they were suing

to recover at least part of the amount.

I was heartily thankful to learn that young Blakesley was in Athens. I did not wish to meet him for some little while. Then Barra popped over and told me to release a sensational yarn about secret agents deliberately damaging the meat cargoes with a new corrosive acid of intense strength that had been invented by a German chemist. He even gave me the name and formula of the acid. "You can say it was that notorious free-lance spy, Captain da Souza, who operated," he told me. "It is always safe to blame anything on Da Souza. He doesn't care. It is a good advertisement for him in a way."

So I spread myself and the story was front-paged and the Chief congratulated me warmly in an official letter and called me something appalling on the telephone. "Ananias would be ashamed to look you in the face, you double-decked robber," he barked, "but it was a good story."

A day or two later I was visited by the fair Ysolde and the dark Liane, who opened on me in perfect English. "Mr. Blakesley talks a little too much, don't you think so, Mr. Carroll?" said the first. "I'm glad that Captain Barra sent his wire from the all-night post-office at the Bourse," said Liane. Then they both put out their pretty pink hands, "Money, please, m'sieu," they chorused.

"Er, what the devil do you mean, holding me up in my office?" They laughed joyfully, and Liane said: "Oh, M'sieu Carroll, you will be calling us gold-diggers next. Don't you know Captain Barra employed us to, what do you call it, let me see, oh, to contact M'sieu Blakesley?"

"The damned scoundrel," I ejaculated virtuously.

Again they laughed and this time it was Ysolde who spoke. "You made your little share, did you not, M'sieu Carroll? Well, we want ours. We know the money is safe, but we made la bombe last night and now we are on the rocks, dry, busted."

"You speak very good English."

They both curtsied in mockery.

"Thank you, kind sir."

"I nearly fainted when Ysolde, altering her voice, announced, 'I come from Brum,' and Liane, her eyes sparkling, told me that she was born in that pretty little village at the foot of the Surrey hills, namely, Peckham, which is Postal District S.E.15 of London Town."

"Let's go and have a drink," I suggested. "One of the things we came here for," they chorused.

I put a call through to Barra who instructed me to inform the fair damsels to go to Van Reyn, the Dutch private banker, who would pay them over certain moneys.

When I gave them the good news they both kissed me rapturously and Liane dated me up. Ysolde publicly announced her intention of laying her snares for Barra, and chanted, "Oh, mama, go get that man for me," but she'll have a hard journey. He's a hard nut is Captain Barra.



Guests and judges at the physical training display at the Hong Kong Football Club ground.

Briton, The Poor Fool!

"It's a year ago to-day," said Mrs. Steady, looking up at her sister-in-law from a study of her diary pages, "that we drove into Grayminster to buy those black-out curtains."

"All the soldiers on the roads, and the traffic lights down to almost nothing . . ." said Geraldine Steady. "It might be a hundred years!"

"It was the next night," said Mrs. Steady, "that I did my first spell of Air Raid Precautions duty. The day after that the first evacuee children came from Wightport, and you decided to stay with me. Smalltown hasn't been the peaceful refuge I promised you, Geraldine!"

"I feel like Nelson," said Miss Steady, defiantly. "Do you remember that saying of his at one of the big battles? 'I would not be elsewhere for thousands!'"

"There are so many things one's forgotten," went on Mrs. Steady, turning the pages of her book. "Got battery for electric torch at last. The worst battery famine was in November. Then about the cold . . . Wasn't that dreadful winter like the vigil before the accolade of knighthood? How our fighting airmen are winning their spurs! Heard that Nazis had invaded Holland before breakfast from the chimney sweep."

"I hope they got no breakfast," murmured Geraldine, "but I expect they did!"

"David's leave over. I wonder . . ."

David Steady was one of those fighting airmen. It was a pity for his Mother to wonder too much about him.

"I hope you put down the little things," said Miss Steady. "Private diaries are history. The first time we saw the balloons over Wightport . . . the first air raid warning . . . doesn't that seem years ago? The first time we were woken up by gunfire . . . the first camouflaged car . . . the first camouflaged house on the Terrace . . . the first time someone said 'I'll come if there isn't a raid on.'"

"There were other first times, too," said Mrs. Steady, dreamily. "The first time I realised that this isn't just a fight between ourselves and our Allies, and the Germans; that if we were beaten it would be the end of all decent existence. I was frightened when I saw that first, though I didn't let you know it. How could nice,

casual creatures, like David and the other boys, girls like my Molly and Joan, in their hospitals and ambulances, have such responsibility? Then came Dunkirk . . . and the French collapse, and we knew we'd got to win the war by ourselves somehow, and it seemed to get easier."

"What you mean," said Miss Steady, "is that there's a tonic in personal danger. That's why people ride the Grand National and shoot rapids and so on, I suppose. We're all getting that tonic, and personal responsibility, too. It's doing us a world of good!"

Smalltown, with the other towns and villages of Southshire, and

By
Kathleen
Conyngham
Greene, O.B.E.

of Eastshire and Northeastshire, is proud of being in the front line of the Battle of Britain.

There is little that the High Command of the Royal Air Force could tell us about air fighting that we do not feel we know . . . in some respects better than they

do! A distinguished Air Marshal has said that he cannot be sure of the sound of a German bomber. There isn't a Smalltown man or woman who will not nod wisely towards a particular sort of overhead droning.

"That's a German . . .!"

And then, to a sound of a different timbre—

"That's the Hurricanes after him!"

The Briton, poor fool, his enemies say, will never agree that he's beaten. He—and she—won't even agree to be frightened! When planes are swooping, and machine-gunfire is rattling, over the roofs of Smalltown, old Mrs. Stiff

has to be, almost forcibly, propelled into the house by her family.

"I've got so blind," says Mrs. Stiff, "that I can't see them properly unless they fly really low."

Mr. Bunn, the baker, had the front of his shop sliced off by a bomb one night. The very next day there was a big poster nailed up on the one wall left standing:—

"Who cares for Hitler? Bread and cakes as usual."

When "all day long the noise of battle rolls," Smalltown housewives pick up their baskets and run out, between raids, to do their shopping.

Even the dogs seem to be imbued with the same courage. Mrs. Steady's golden cocker spaniel, who hides under the table at the pop of a Guy Fawkes Day cracker, does not lift his head from his basket at the sound of far louder bangs.

"Private diaries are history," said Mrs. Steady, meditatively, looking down at her book. "If any grandchildren of mine should read what I've written, they may think it's terribly trivial. Of course I've written about the war. Here's last Friday—'Bombs in Chestnut Street. Three small houses wrecked. Took coat and shoes to Mrs. Chatter whose clothes were buried. But then I've said, G. and I to bridge club.'"

"On Saturday I've written 'much fighting all day over the town. Watched great air battle above Wightport in horizon. Balloon hit. Saw Nazi bombers falling. The grandchildren might think that was interesting.'"

"But what about 'Cinema in evening'? Of course it was that war film about the lighthouse men, and there wasn't an air raid warning till we got home. I shouldn't like anyone who reads the diary to feel we were dreadful people, playing bridge and going to the cinema, while we were fighting for civilisation!"

"Don't you worry!" said Geraldine. "The Germans are telling their own people now that all this part of England is a heap of smoking ruins. If you and I are alive at all we ought to be gibbering with terror underground! As we are alive, and living normal, cheerful lives in a comfortable house, why shouldn't your future grandchildren, and the historians of the future, be able to read the truth?"

Mussolini's Dream

by
Basil Matthews

The name of Graziani, Mussolini's Governor General of the Italian North African colony of Libya, brings curses to the lips of every Arab, whether he is in his tent in the Syrian desert or sipping coffee in the bazaars of Tunis or Algiers.

The Arabs everywhere feel undying hate for the man who, to crush their resistance to his tyranny in Libya, took sheikhs of noble birth into the air and threw them from aeroplanes to crash to death among their tribal followers, and who beat others to death.

He, too, it was who—forcibly transporting Libyan Arab tribes by the hundred thousand to desert areas, destroyed their flocks and herds—reducing their camels from 75,000 to 2,600, their sheep from 800,000 to 98,000 and their horses from 14,000 to 1,000.

Graziani succeeded as Governor Italo Balbo, whose mysterious death in an air-crash cast suspicion on Graziani.

Balbo's Colony

Balbo was a very different type from Graziani, and would have done much more to give Italy a real Empire, based on sound methods of development. Mussolini sent him to Libya in order to put him into the background, for Balbo's exploits in the air had made him the adored hero of the Italian people and a potential rival to the Duce.

Balbo didn't accept his governorship of Libya as exile. He set to work to improve flocks and herds, and he also carried through

a great mass-colonisation scheme. In 1938 he transported twenty thousand Italian peasants on sixteen steamships from Italy to Libya and settled them all within twenty-four hours in eighteen hundred farm houses—all exactly identical with one another, on farms provided not only in seed and animal stock, but also in

water for irrigation from artesian wells sunk fifteen hundred feet beneath the Libyan sand.

Balbo thus began to create, behind the narrow fringe of fertility on the thousand mile coast line of Libya, a new Italy in Africa. His death ended his work, and Graziani began the other sort of Empire-building—the sort that Mussolini prefers—a brutal tyranny.

The Population Problem

But Mussolini still values the mass-colonisation idea. His first motive for this is to find space for Italy's swiftly growing population. Her increase is at the rate of 400,000 a year. Mussolini, by financial and other inducements, incites the Italian people to have more babies, and at the same time, utters curses because there is inadequate room for them on Italian soil.

The Libyan colonisation is a step towards the answer, but it is only a small step.

The second driving force behind Mussolini's Imperialism is the Fascist passion for a self-sufficient Italy, or to use the word invented by the Dictators an "autarky". The menace of economic sanctions, held over the head of Italy during the Abyssinian crisis, wounded Fascist pride. Italy now plans that Libya shall be a farm of the Roman Empire which, with Abyssinia, would theoretically go some way towards making her independent of imports.

The third motive for colonising Libya is that of strategic security.

Obviously if some hundred thousand sturdy and prolific peasants, owning their own farms in Libya and, therefore, keen on defending that territory, are living on the soil of Africa immediately opposite to Sicily and the toe of Italy, Italy's strategic position in the Mediterranean is much stronger.

The Mantle Of Caesar

The fourth driving force in the Italian adventure of colonisation in North Africa is tied up with all the others.

It is the motive that appeals so much to the imagination of Mussolini, who sleeps every night with the famous book "The Mantle of Caesar" by his bedside; it is the motive of prestige, the passionate desire to make the Mediterranean the lake of a new Roman Empire whose frontiers might even go down to the marches of India.

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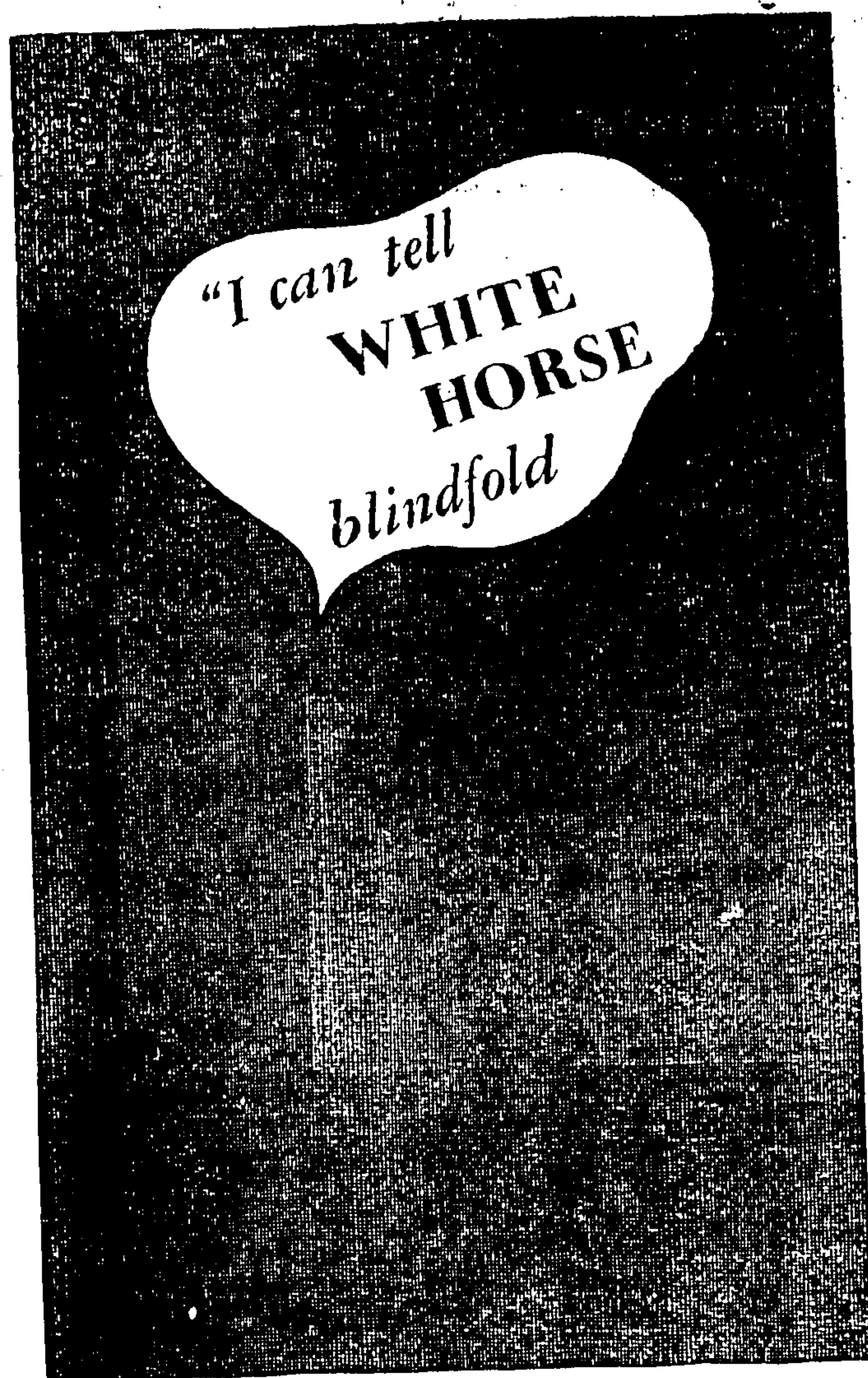
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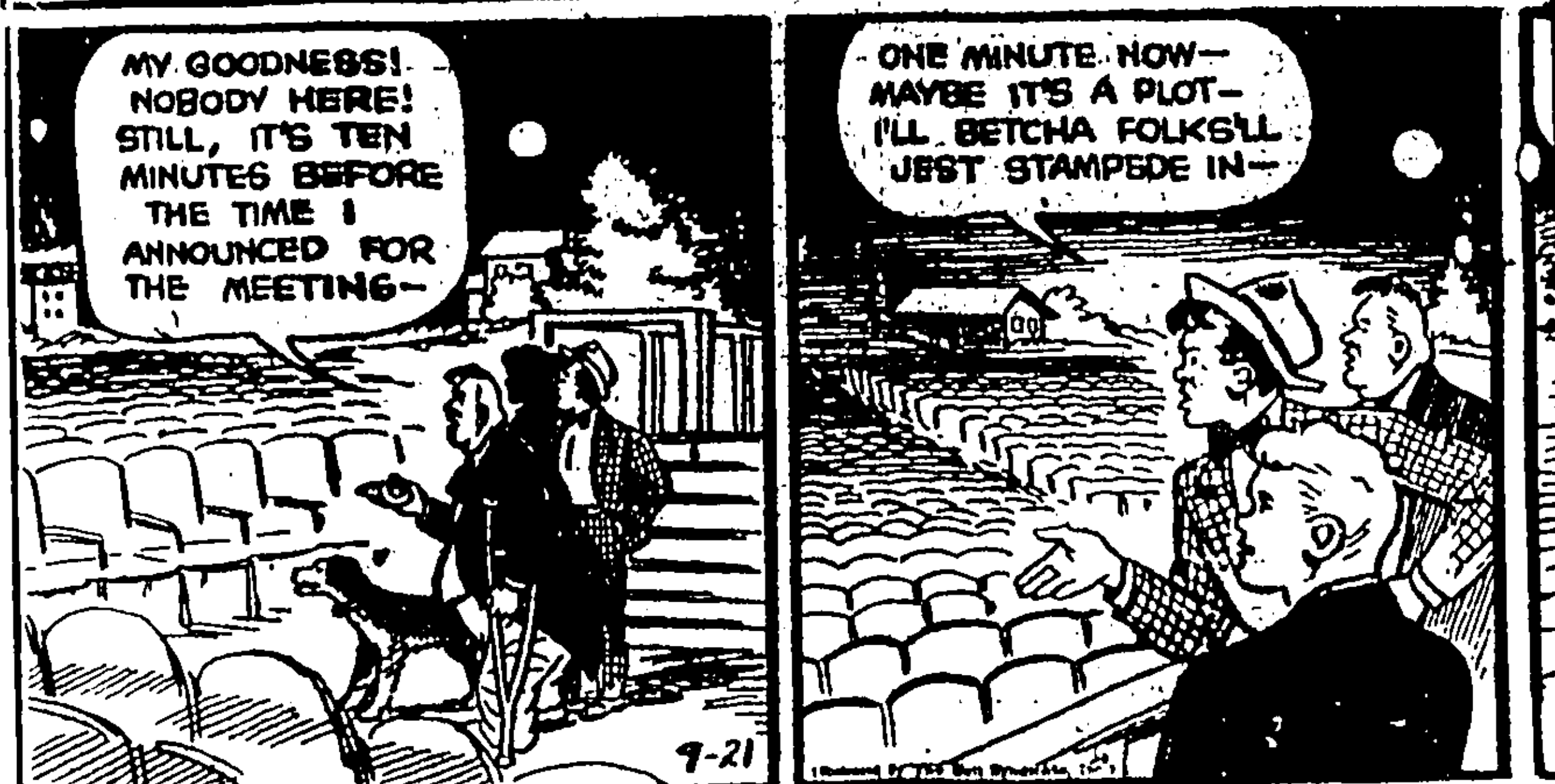
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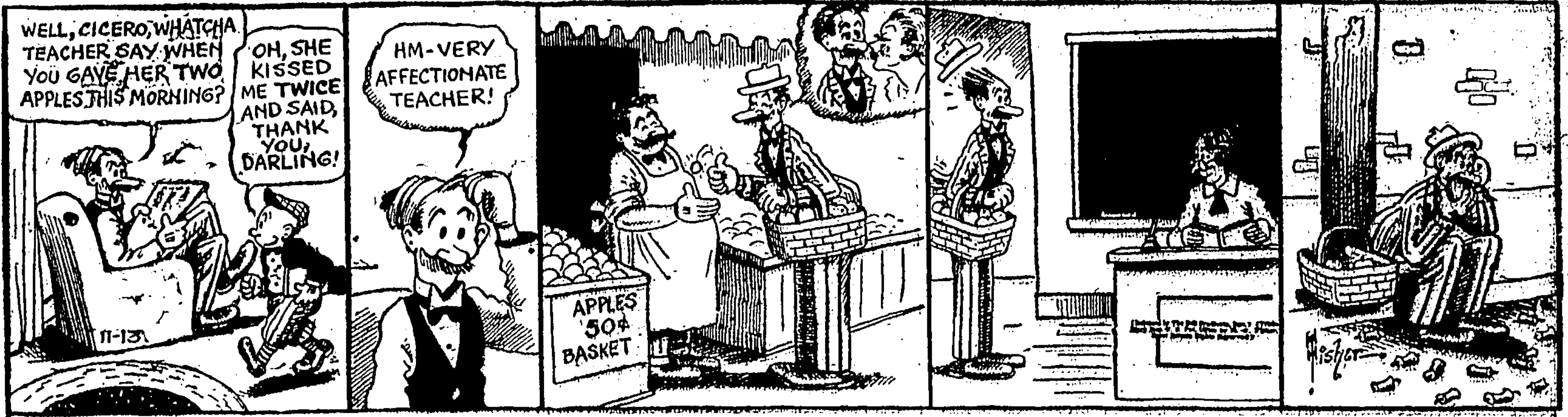
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MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER

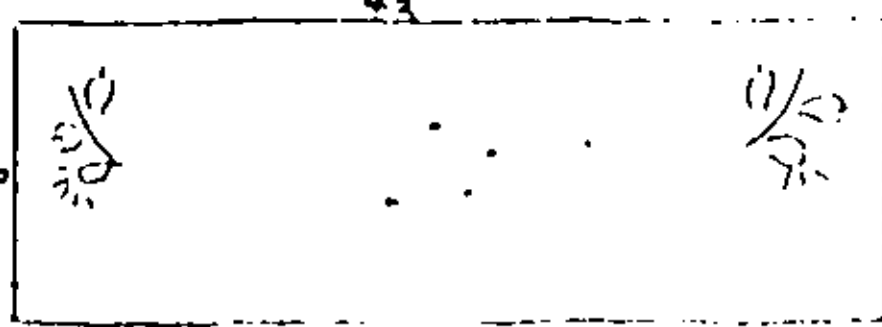
A PAGE FOR WOMEN
GOOD TWO SHOW

THESE bedroom slippers are ideal for holiday travelling, since they take up so little room in the suitcase. They are quickly made, too, with the help of the diagrams, which can easily be traced from the sizes given.

The design is a simple one, for which a transfer is unnecessary. You will also need a pair of slipper soles, in your own size, and a nine-inch square of coloured felt.

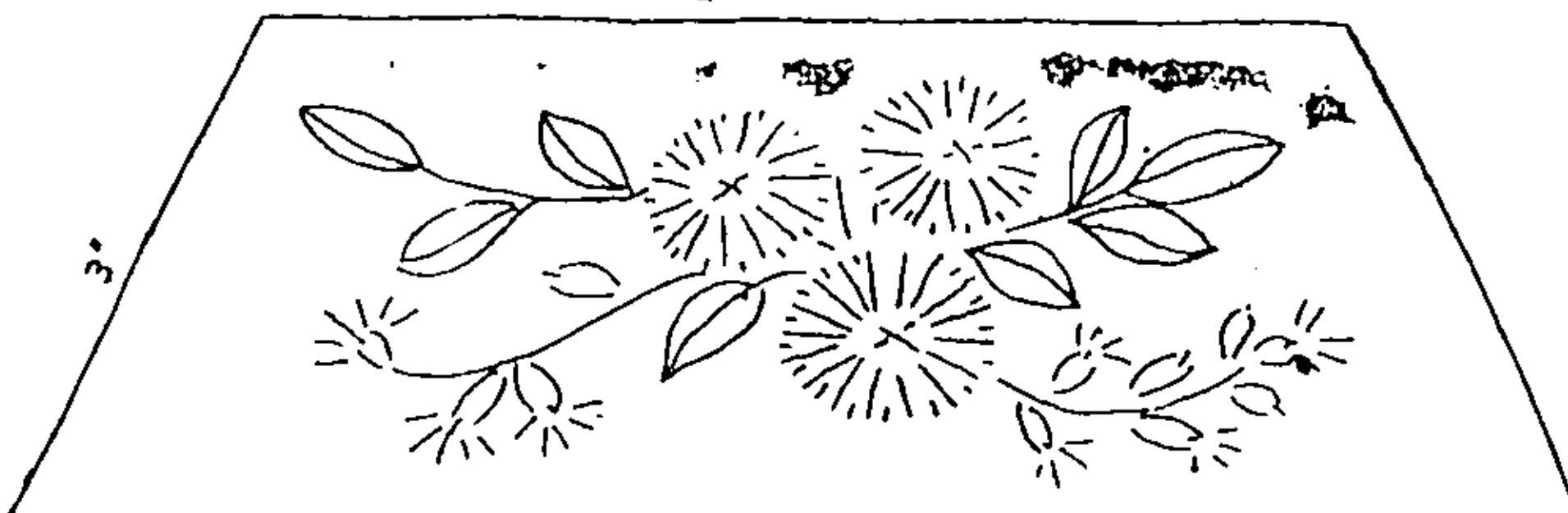
The model slippers were carried out in soft blue, embroidered with candy pink, green, white, bright blue, and purple; but, of course, you'll choose a felt and wools to harmonise with your dressing gown.

Now, with the diagrams before you, cut two pieces of felt, like the bigger sketch, for the two toe-pieces; then cut two smaller pieces for the heels. Draw the simple design shown on the diagram on to a sheet of transparent paper, then



Heel

transfer this to each toe-piece, by placing a piece of carbon paper under the tracing, with the shiny side facing the felt, and go over the outlines with a sharp point.



Toe-piece 8"

The diagram shows the design for the right toe-piece; reverse it for the left piece.

The flowers are done in stroke-stitch, one in white, one in pink, and one in blue; there are tiny single stitches in contrasting colours between each pair of stroke-stitch petals, cherry for the

white, purple for the blue, blue for the pink. Every flower has a black or yellow cross-stitch centre; the stalks are green stem-stitch; the bigger leaves are done in fish-bone-stitch, the smaller ones are daisy-loops. Stroke-stitch buds complete the embroidery.

The heel-pieces have a tiny

spray on each side, and they're done in green and pink. Blanket-stitch round each piece of felt with green wool, then sew the heel-pieces to the heel part of each slipper-sole, and the toe-pieces to the front part, using green wool for this, so that the stitches blend with the blanket-stitching and will not show. Lastly crochet two cords from the green wool, making them about 30 inches long; sew one along the top edge of each heel-piece, and tie the remainder round the ankle, with a bow over the instep.

If the toe-pieces don't fit your foot it would be quite easy to make them longer or shorter accordingly. Cut the shape on paper first of all, and try it against your foot, so as to make sure of not spoiling the felt by cutting it wrongly.

FRUIT PUNCHES AND FRUIT CUPS TO TEMPT YOU . . .

INSTEAD of adding sugar to the fruit cup, make a syrup of four cups sugar boiled for five minutes in two cups water after dissolving. This syrup can be bottled for future use. Bottled grape and grapefruit juice can be obtained when the fruit is not in season.

Barley-Water

Wash barley very well, taking care to remove all the starch. It is a good idea to rub it well with the hands in the water in which it is washed. Allow 1 tablespoon barley to each quart boiling water and boil rapidly for 20 minutes, adding a few slices of lemon during the boiling. Allow to cool, add fruit juices and sugar to taste.

Fruit Punch

Make some China tea and measure 1 pint. Strain into a basin into which you have measured 1/2 lb sugar, stir until sugar is dissolved. Allow it to become cold. Place a block of ice in punch bowl and strain over the tea 1 pint orange juice and 1/2 pint lemon juice. Add 4 tablespoons maraschino, 2 pints ginger ale, 2 pints soda-water, and 1 pint lemonade. Decorate punch bowl

with thin slices of orange and fresh sprigs of mint.

Orange Milk Shake

Mix together 3 cups orange juice, 2 cups grapefruit juice, 1 cup water in which 1/4 cup castor sugar has been dissolved, a pinch salt, and, if liked, a few drops almond essence. Lastly add 1 1/2 cups evaporated milk and 2 cups ice, broken into very small pieces. Place into a large jar and mix well. This is a delicious drink.

Ginger Punch

Boil for 20 minutes 1 quart water, 1 cup sugar, and 1/2 cup ginger syrup. Allow to become quite cold, then add the following: One cup orange juice, 1/2 cup lemon juice, 1/2 cup finely-chopped preserved ginger (optional), 1 bottle lemonade, and 2 pints soda-water.

Claret Punch

Place 1/4 packet raisins in a saucepan with 1 quart water and boil for 20 minutes. Remove raisins and add 2 cups sugar, the thinly-peeled rind of 1 lemon, and about 1 inch stick cinnamon. (Do not use ground cinnamon.) Boil for another 15 or 20 minutes. Cool a

little, then add 2 cups orange juice, 1/2 cup lemon juice, and 1/2 cup grapefruit juice. Cool thoroughly, then strain over ice with 1 pint bottle claret.

Grape-Juice Punch

To each bottle grape juice add 4 tablespoons sugar, half cup lime juice, one pint bottle lemonade, and two pints soda-water. Serve thoroughly cold.

Pineapple Cup

Mix together 4 cups cold strained tea, the juice of 6 oranges and 6 lemons. Boil together 1 medium grated pineapple, 4 level cups sugar, 8 cups water for 20 minutes. Allow to cool, then add fruit juices, tea, etc. Decorate with slices of fruit.

Fruit Cup

Mix together 2 pints cider, the juice of 2 lemons, 2 oranges, and 2 cups pineapple juice. Stir in 2 pints grapefruit juice and 1 cup sugar; allow to stand for about 1 hour. Now add 3 or 4 sliced oranges, 1 sliced apple, 2 or 3 slices lemon, 1 sliced banana, a few maraschino cherries, or strawberries, and 2 or 3 passionfruit. Add a piece of ice and serve cold.

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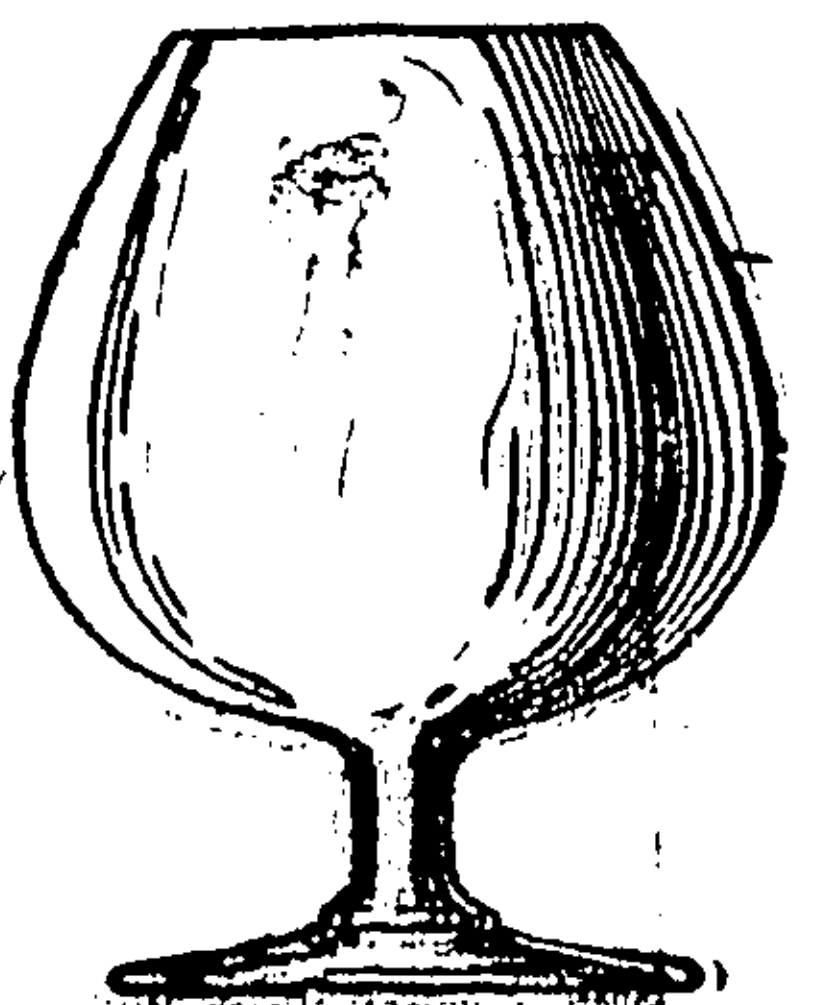
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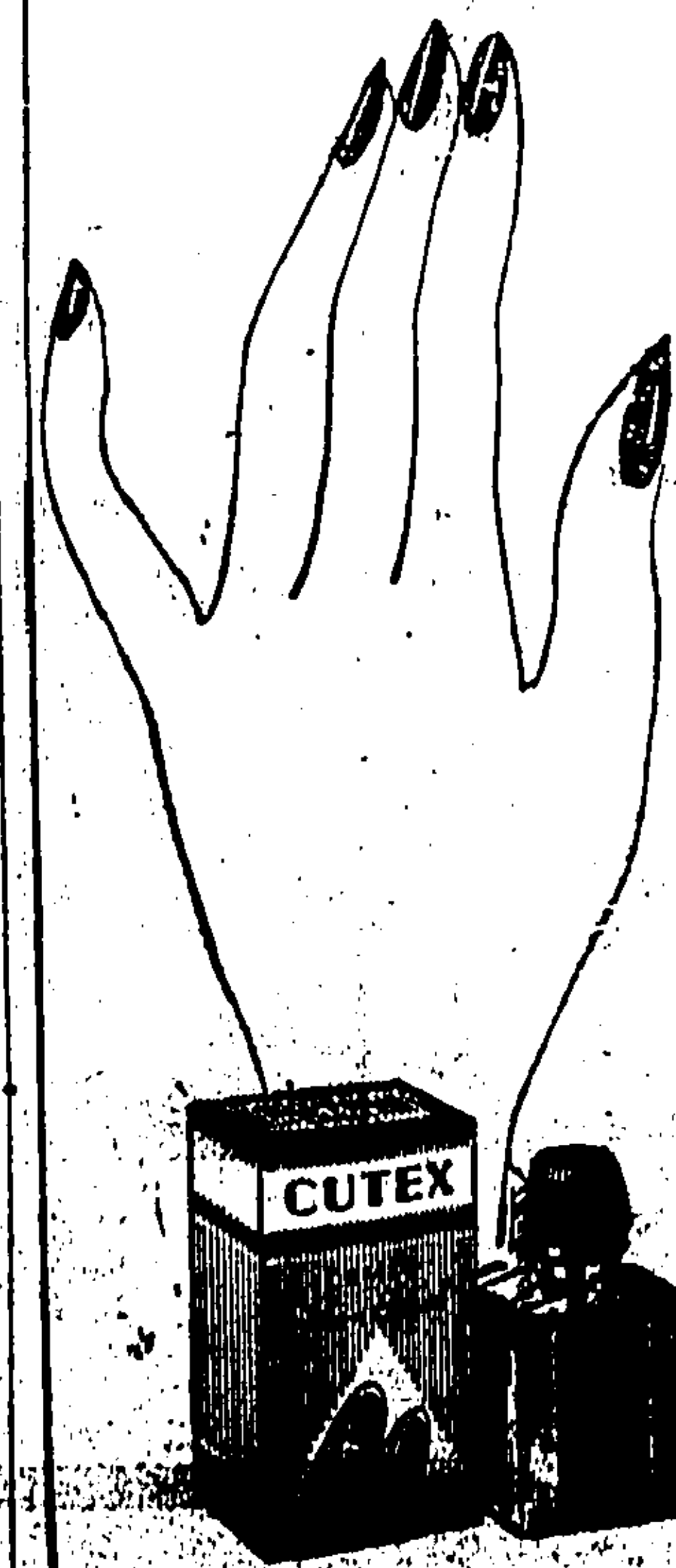
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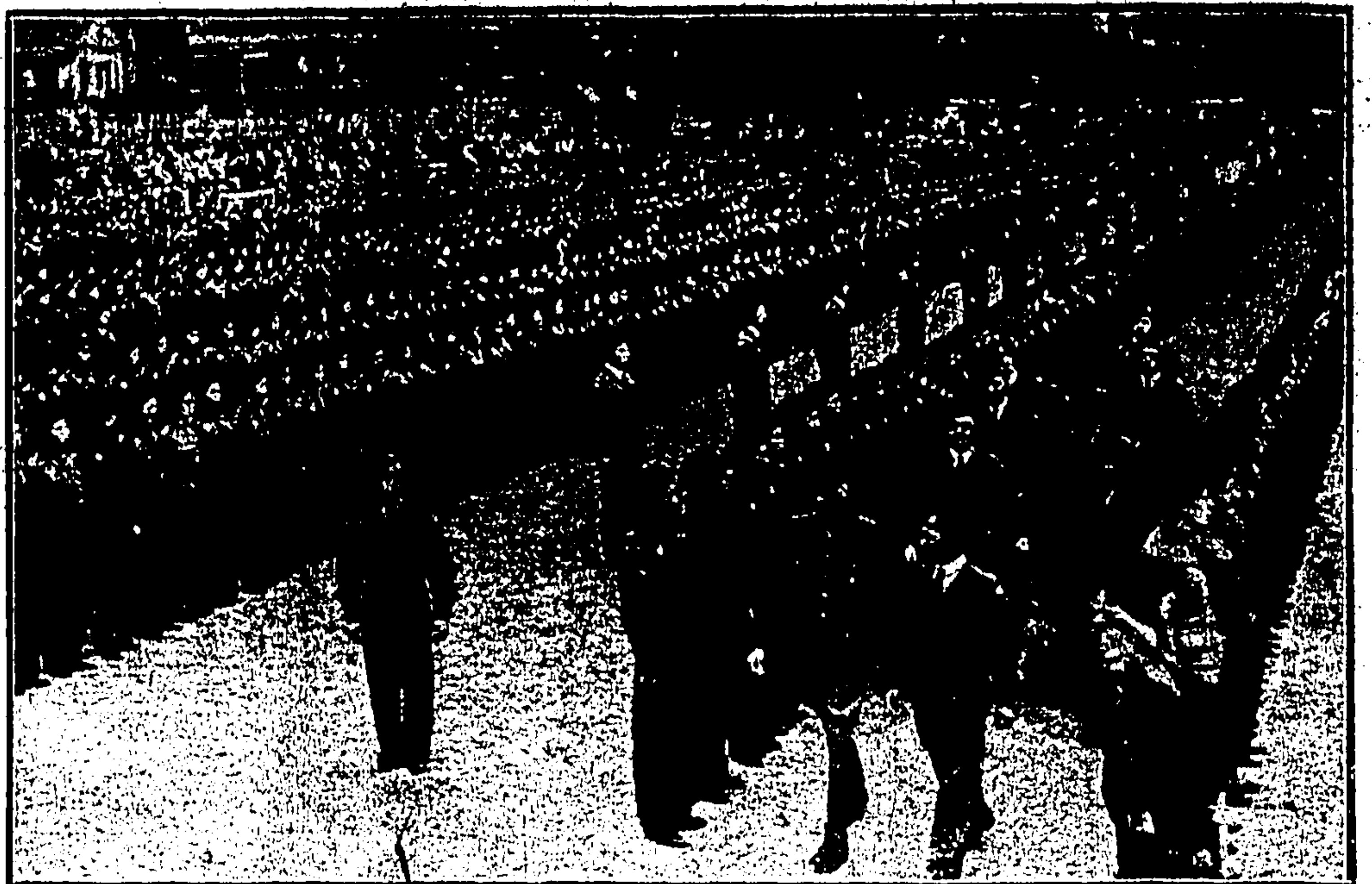
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His Excellency the Acting Governor presenting a certificate to the trainer of the Chung Wah Boys' School at the physical training display.



His Excellency the Acting Governor inspecting the impressive parade of the Colony's A.R.P. personnel last Saturday.



A close-up of the Acting Governor inspecting the A.R.P. parade.



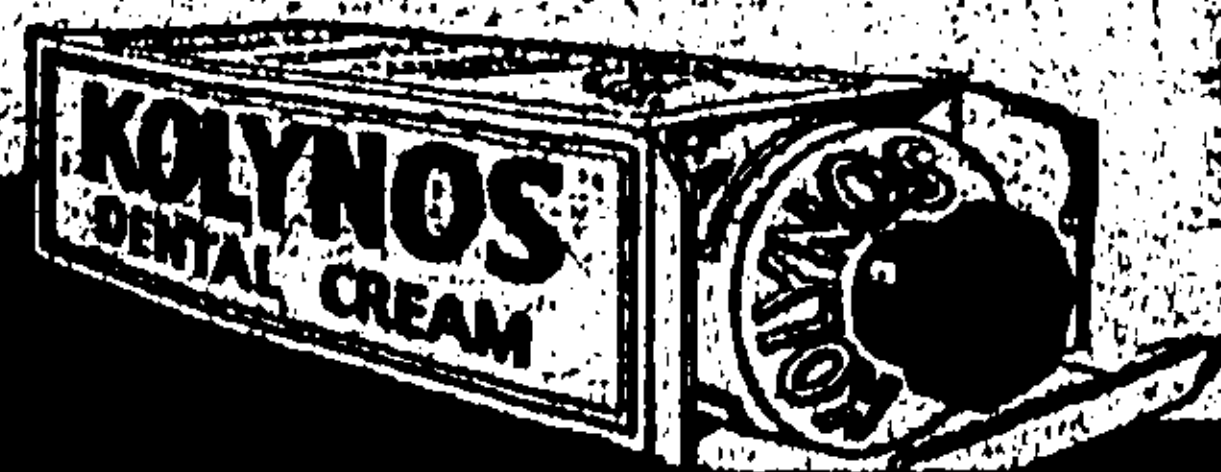
Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club, presenting the prize to the Sai Ying-poon Boys' Club.

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The small representative of Wanchai Girls' Club receiving their prize from Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club on Christmas Gift Day.

THRILLING STORY OF PARACHUTE ESCAPE BY R.A.F. PILOT

A THRILLING STORY OF A PARACHUTE ESCAPE FROM A SPITFIRE WAS TOLD YESTERDAY BY A SERGEANT-PILOT WHO WAS A MEMBER OF ONE OF THE FIRST R.A.F. FLIGHTS TO HAVE SHOT DOWN 100 AIRCRAFT WHILE OPERATING FROM ONE STATION.

He said: "We had attacked a formation of Messerschmidt 109's about lunchtime one day. We peeled off down from about 22,000 feet one after another and made our attacks.

Then there was a dog fight and I was hit by a cannon shell as I was about to get on a Messerschmidt 109 about 1,000 feet below me. Immediately my Spitfire went into a steep dive.

Flames appeared all round so I threw the hood back and kicked myself out of the machine. I had been hit in the leg and fainted almost immediately.

I came to pretty soon afterwards and found I was falling fast. I was very comfortable but at 14,000 feet or so pulled the parachute rip cord.

Tunic On Fire

Then when coming down slowly I took my wireless lead, which was still attached and tied it tight round my leg to staunch the flow of blood.

Then I realised my tunic was on fire so I beat out the flames with my hands. I singed my moustache too.

A Spitfire from another squadron came round me and gave protection from machine-gunning by enemy fighters but no enemy appeared.

I thought once coming down I was going to hit telegraph wires or a high tension cable but missed them both and landed in an orchard.

The aircraft crashed about three miles from my home in Kent and when my parents came to see me in hospital the following day they told me they had watched me coming down although at the time not knowing who it was." — British Wireless.

THE TASK OF 1941

"IF WE CAN HOLD ON DURING 1941, WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN PRODUCE GIVES US THE CERTAINTY OF ULTIMATE VICTORY," SAID SIR WALTER LAYTON YESTERDAY, SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO BRITAIN FROM A TOUR OF AMERICA.

The aid the United States will be able to give will become a "positive avalanche," he added.

The U.S. effort will begin to mature during the summer and will reach its climax next winter and in the spring of 1942. — Reuter.

WAVING OF HAIR PROHIBITED

The Loyal Economy Savings Promotion Association has passed a resolution prohibiting women from waving their hair and wearing high-heeled shoes, which are considered luxurious habits.

Shoe shops are told to sell their stocks of high-heeled shoes within a month after which sale will be strictly banned. — Central News.

5,000 FRENCH QUIT SYRIA

About 5,000 officers and men of the French Army in Syria are now on their way home to France. The garrisons in Syria and Lebanon have been reduced to approximately 60,000.

MYSTERY DEATH AT STANLEY

BEING SEEN IN APPARENTLY GOOD HEALTH FOUR HOURS PREVIOUSLY BY FELLOW-VILLAGERS, A 30-YEAR-OLD COOLIE WAS FOUND DEAD ON THE HILLSIDE NEAR THE STANLEY BARRACK AT 8 A.M. TO-DAY.

An examination of the body disclosed no bruises and only a few slight scratches about the face.

The body has been removed to the mortuary and police investigations are proceeding.

FREE OF INTEREST LOANS

During the week ended December 24 the number of loans free of interest received by the Treasury was 103, totalling £153,587. Total amount received is £25,697,366 and the number of loans 11,184. — British Wireless.

Ice Cubes!

Ever been rushed for ice cubes at a party or your bathing shed? Buy a packet of Dairy Farm Ice Cubes and you'll find your problems solved. Crystal clear, and generously sized, they won't spoil your drinks or give them an "off taste."

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OVERSEAS (including postage)

3 months ... H.K.\$17.00
6 months ... H.K.\$34.00
12 months ... H.K.\$68.00

All subscriptions are strictly prepaid, and all cheques, postal and money orders should be made payable to The Newspaper Enterprise Limited.

CONTRIBUTIONS:

All contributions must bear the writer's or artist's signature, not for publication purposes unless desired, but as a sign of good faith. The publishers do not accept responsibility for the return of manuscript, drawings or pictures unless a stamped addressed envelope is sent together with the contribution.



PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 30th day of Dec., 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Castle Peak, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
1	Ping Shan Inland Lot No. 6.	Castle Peak.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan	About 18,000	\$82 \$900

M.V. "HOEGH TRANSPORTER"

On instructions from the Underwriters, Tenders are invited for the Single Screw Motor Vessel "HOEGH TRANSPORTER" as she lies submerged in her damaged condition in Singapore Roads.

The vessel is of the Shelter Deck type designed for a carrying capacity of 9,000 tons and fitted with Diesel Machinery.

A large part of the cargo has been removed from the vessel.

Tenders should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 31st December 1940, who will supply any further information available.

The highest, or any, tender may not necessarily be accepted.

RITCHIE & RUSSET,
UNION BUILDING,
SINGAPORE.

BRIDGE NOTES

Bridge Swindles —

No. 19

By The Four Aces

West knew that South was a fine player and that he would make his contract by an end play unless he could be sidetracked:

South, Dealer

Neither side vulnerable

♠ 4 3	♥ K 7 6 3	♦ 6 3 2	♣ A J 9 8
♠ Q J 10	♥ 9 6	♦ 7 5 2	♣ 7 5 2
♠ 9 6	♥ Q 9	♦ 8 7	♣ J 8 6 2
♠ K J 9 5	♥ K J 9 5	♦ A Q 6 5 3	♣ K 10 5
♠ 4 3	♥ A K 8	♦ A 10 4	♣ K 10 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♣	1♠	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the Queen of spades, South winning with the King. Declarer cashed the club King and led the club ten, finessing to East's Queen. South won the spade return with the spade Ace and led a club towards dummy.

West could place all the high cards from the bidding and correctly assumed that South's plan was to cash the clubs and the two high hearts and then lead a spade to force a diamond lead up to the Ace-Queen. The only danger, for South, was that West might be able to blank the King of diamonds and win four instead of three tricks at the end. And West's only chance of heading off South was to make South think the diamond King had been blanked.

On the third round of clubs, therefore, West discarded the five of diamonds; and on dummy's last club West blandly dropped the Jack of diamonds. Now South looked worried. Had West blanked his King of diamonds? If so, correct play was to play the diamond Ace rather than throw West in with a spade. Or was West just pretending? If so, the end-play would work after all.

As it happened, South guessed wrong, by playing for the King of diamonds to drop. So West's

swindle sidetracked a successful play in favour of an unsuccessful one.

Yesterday you were Marwin D. Maller's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you held:

♠ Q 9 8 2
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 6 5
♣ 7 4 3

The bidding:

Maller	Jacoby	You	Schenken
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	Pass	(?)

ANSWER: Bid one spade. The suit is not a good one, but there is a faint chance that partner has good spade support. Also, this is the cheapest bid you can make — an important consideration since your hand is so weak. Score 100% for one spade; 50% for one no-trump; 30% for two clubs.

Question No. 599

To-day you are Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you hold:

♠ K J 9
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 6 5 3
♣ Q 4 3

The bidding:

Schenken	Maller	You	Jacoby
1♣	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	Pass	(?)

What do you bid? (Answer

Ti-morrow.)
(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



The man's girl-friend thinks her beau has lost his sense of honesty when he announces he thinks he'll rustle a couple of theatre tickets.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"I see you're doing your Christmas Snooping early!"

Here's Luck

EWO BEER

Tel. 30311.



In the

HONG KONG HOTEL

DINNER DANCE

With Nick Korin & His Swing Band

NIGHTLY 9 P.M. TILL 1 A.M.
SATURDAYS EXTENSION 2 A.M.

TEA DANCE

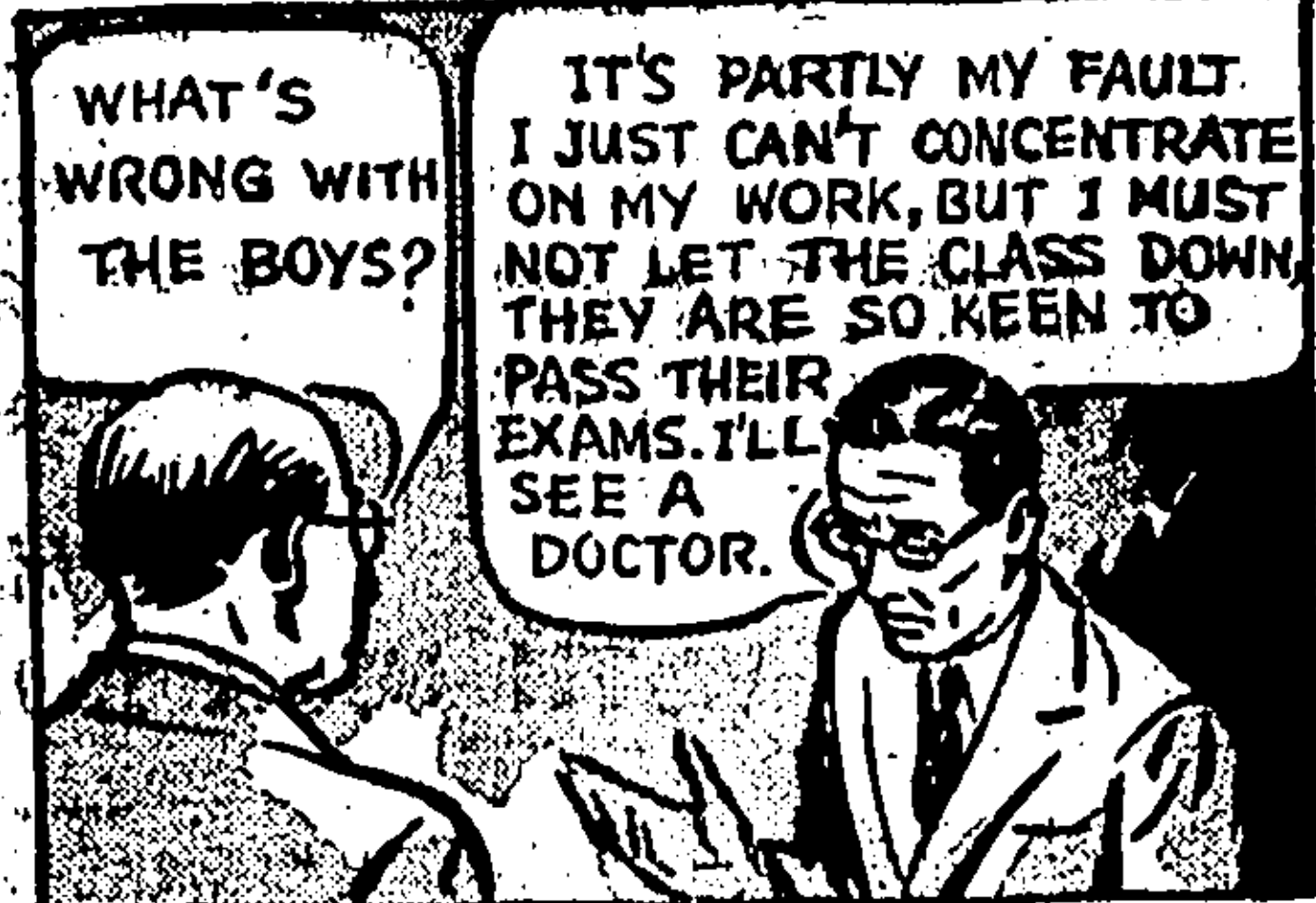
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS — 5 TILL 7 P.M.

THE HONG KONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.

SCHOOL TEACHER NEARLY FAILS HIS CLASS

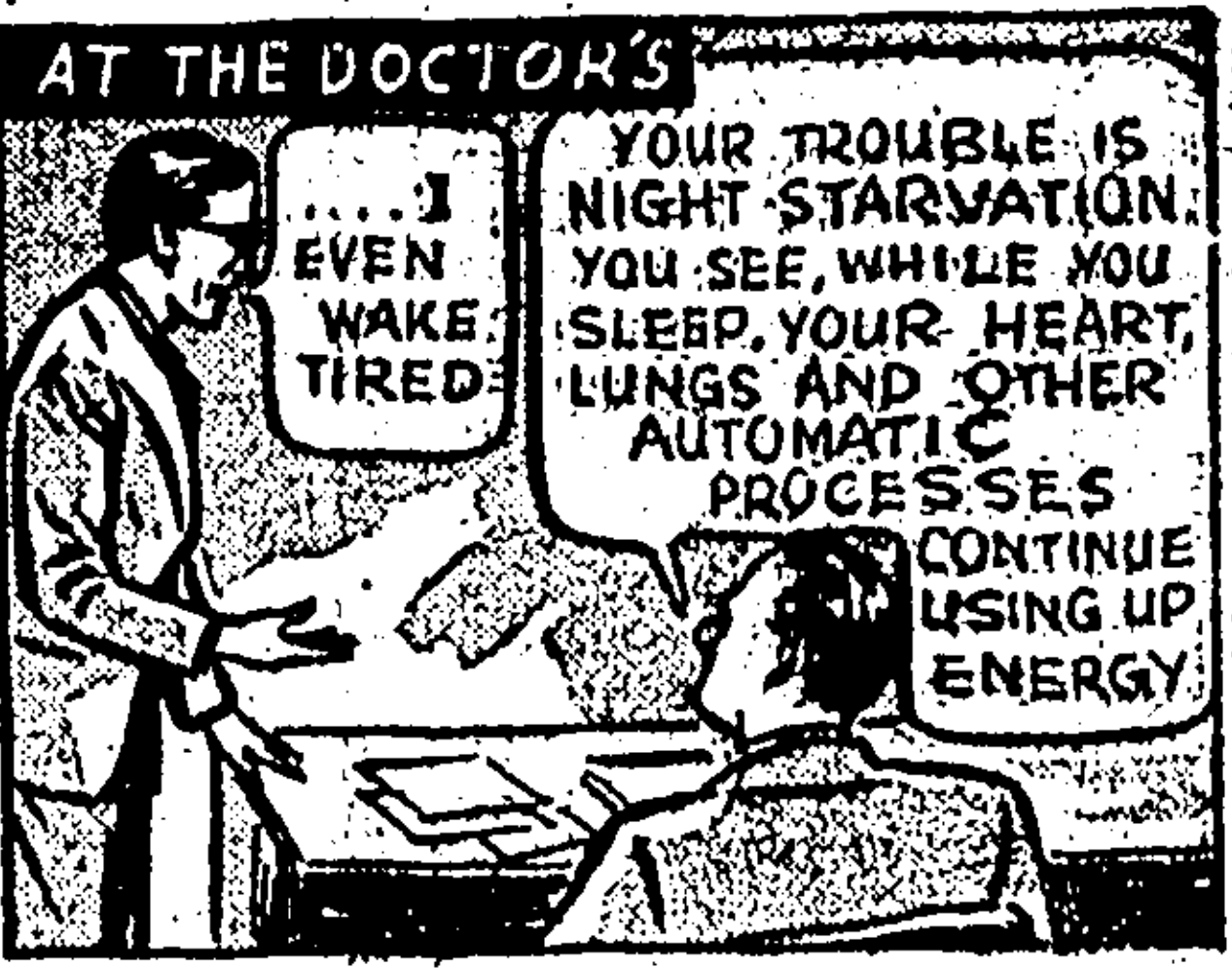


(THINKS)
THE BOYS WILL NEED A LOT MORE COACHING IF THEY ARE TO PASS THEIR SENIOR CAMBRIDGE NEXT TERM.



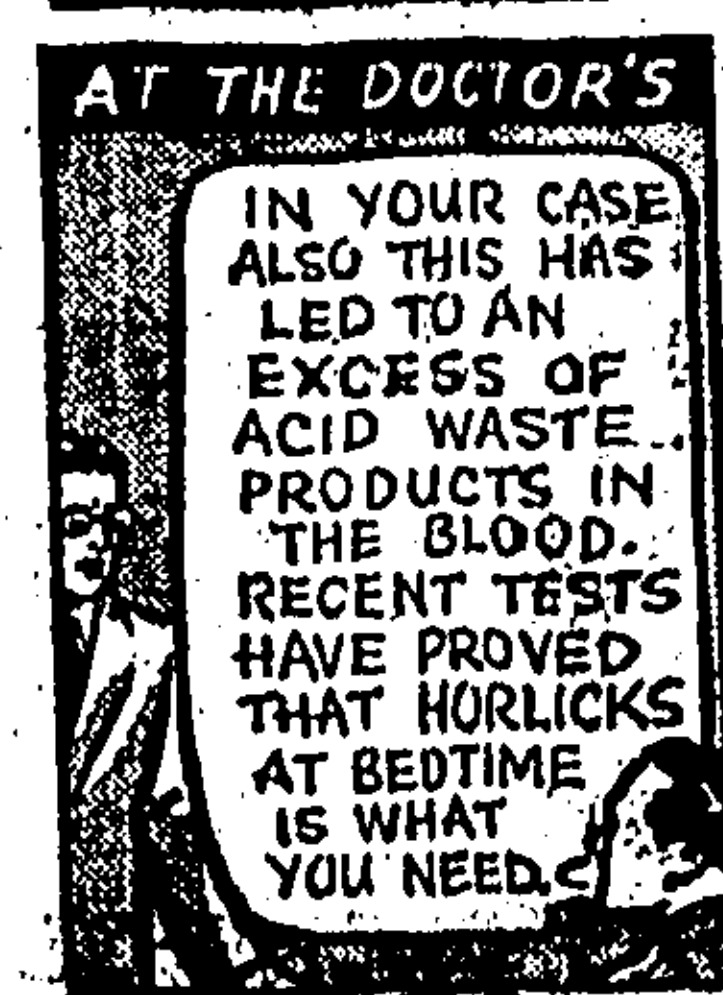
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE BOYS?

IT'S PARTLY MY FAULT. I JUST CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON MY WORK, BUT I MUST NOT LET THE CLASS DOWN. THEY ARE SO KEEN TO PASS THEIR EXAMS. I'LL SEE A DOCTOR.



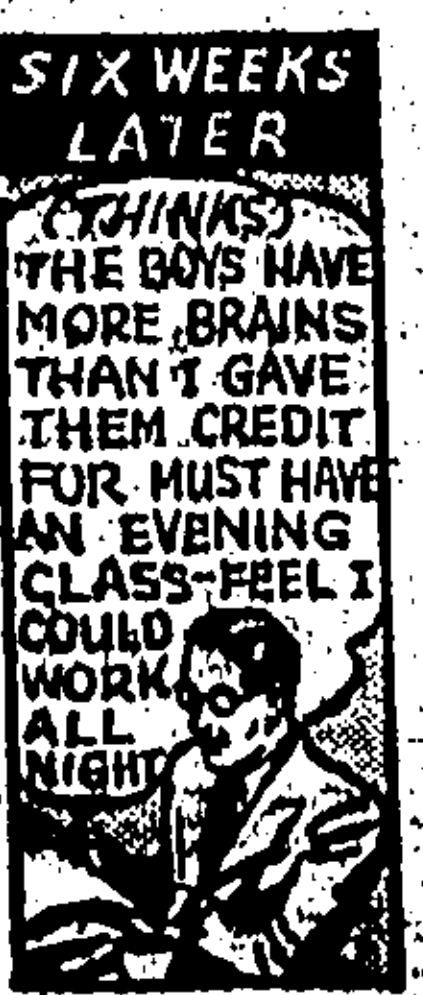
AT THE DOCTOR'S

YOUR TROUBLE IS NIGHT STARVATION. YOU SEE, WHILE YOU SLEEP, YOUR HEART, LUNGS AND OTHER AUTOMATIC PROCESSES CONTINUE USING UP ENERGY.



AT THE DOCTOR'S

IN YOUR CASE ALSO THIS HAS LED TO AN EXCESS OF ACID WASTE PRODUCTS IN THE BLOOD. RECENT TESTS HAVE PROVED THAT HORLICKS AT BEDTIME IS WHAT YOU NEED.



SIX WEEKS LATER

(THINKS) THE BOYS HAVE MORE BRAINS THAN I GAVE THEM CREDIT FOR. MUST HAVE AN EVENING CLASS. FEEL I COULD WORK ALL NIGHT.



WELL DONE BOYS — WE HAVE NEVER HAD SO MANY PASSES IN THE SENIOR CAMBRIDGE.

(THINKS) HORLICKS IS THE SECRET.

THANKS TO YOUR GOOD COACHING SIR.

DOCTORS AND SCIENTISTS USE HORLICKS IN HOSPITAL TESTS

RECENTLY tests were made in a great hospital on men and women who complained of always feeling tired.

It was found that these people had an excess of acid waste products in their blood during sleep.

This acid waste kept the brain and nerves 'on edge' all night even though the rest of the body was sound asleep.

But when Horlicks was given to these people last thing at night, this excess acid waste was completely neutralized. They woke refreshed, with increased energy and vitality.

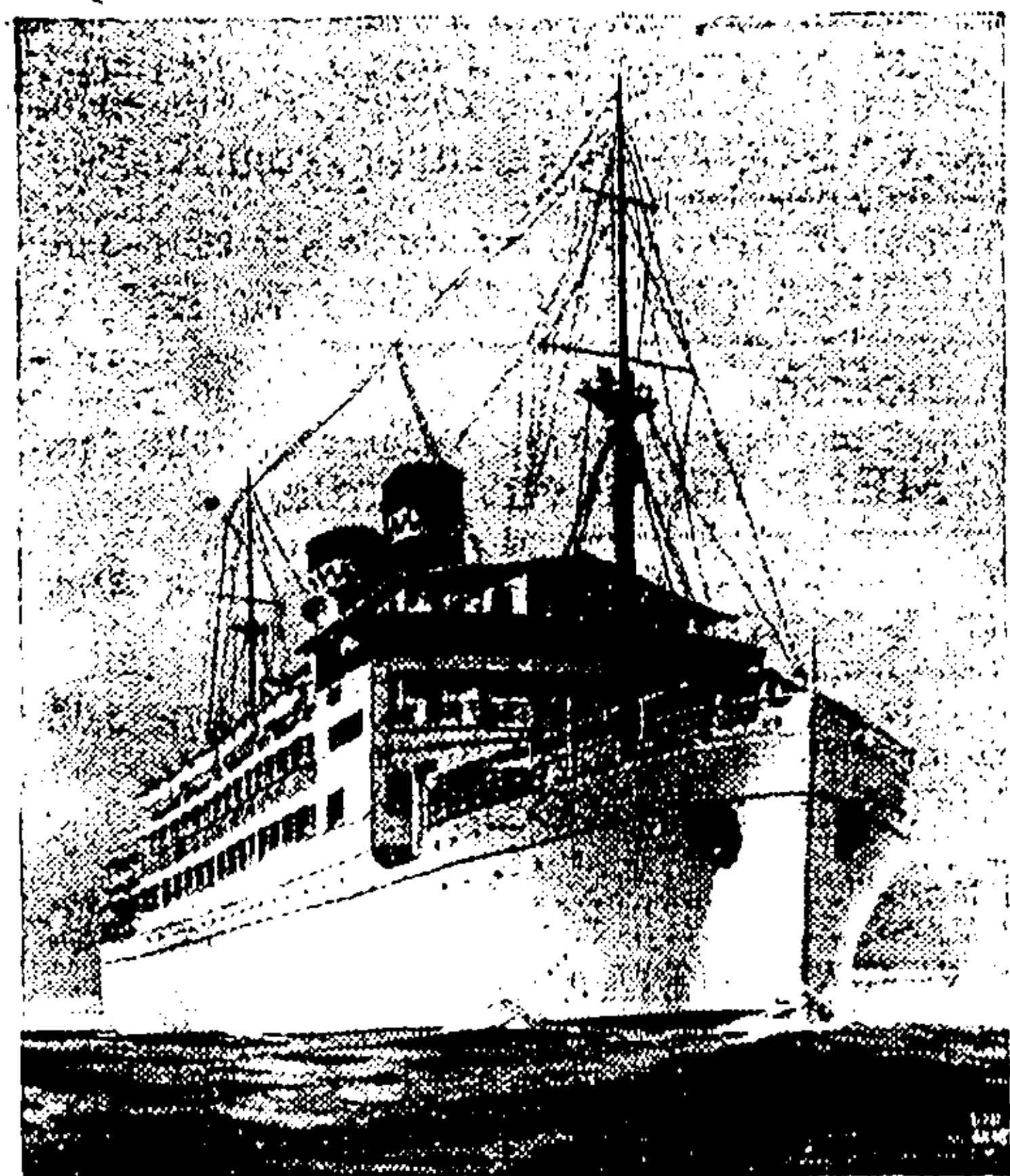
DO YOU FEEL WORN OUT, DEPRESSED, OR NERVOUS? DO YOU EVEN AWAKE TIRED?

Take **HORLICKS**

THEN YOU WILL SLEEP SOUNDLY — WAKE REFRESHED AND HAVE EXTRA ENERGY ALL DAY

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of
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Roosevelt Terminal in the French
Concession at Shanghai, where
passengers and cargo are landed.

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& CO., LTD.

GENERAL MANAGERS.

TELEPHONE — 30311.

**PAID TO
LIVE AT
OFFICE**

Staffs of Government departments who sleep at the office are to receive a meal allowance of three shillings a night. Canteens are also to be provided.

A circular contained suggestions which have been agreed to by the staff representatives.

Office shelters are to be equipped with tiered bunks. There will be a rota system of long and short day attendances.

It is hoped that departments will manage with a nucleus staff on Sundays. Where this is impracticable one other day off in seven is to be allowed.

Officers who can work at home are to be allowed to do so for one or two days a week.

**BOMBER
FUND
SOFTBALL**

About \$200 for the Bomber Fund was collected yesterday at Kowloon Football Club where the Graybeards subdued the Juveniles 17 to 14 in a softball tilt.

No one knows what the score was in the nightcap in which the losers battled with the Kowloon Kops but it was generally agreed that a big time was had.

**DAVY JONES'S BOOT
LOCKER**

For stealing a pair of boots from near where a bomb had fallen, David Jones, fifty-two, a homeless labourer, was at Old Street, London, sentenced to six months' hard labour.

Detective Landsell told the Court.

"This man says he was too drunk to remember what he was doing, but he took the boots from a pile of boots and shoes of all sorts of colours, shapes and sizes, and was sober enough to pick out a pair of his own size."

**M.P. SAYS 'TELL THE
WORLD'**

Major J. Milner (Lab., Leeds, SE.) is to ask the Minister of Information whether he will publish, for the information of world opinion, a list or catalogue of non-military objectives bombed in London, up to the latest date considered desirable.

**DOLLAR ACADEMY
Dollar, Scotland.**

Preparation for Universities, Army, Public Services, Commerce; On List of Schools nominating for Sandhurst, Contingent of Junior Division O.T.C.

Mild climate and healthful surroundings. Specially suitable for colonial boys and boys from Urban areas. Preparatory School adjacent.

Prospectus and full particulars may be obtained on application to the School Secretary, or at the Office of this paper.

Headmaster, HARRY BELL,
B.A. (Cantab.)

**Firm Flesh
Turns To Fat**

When Food Tract is Constipated.

A cause of unhealthy fat is often a congested food tract. Absorbing the fermenting wastes into your system will create the fat of ill-health. These digestive poisons account for the sick headaches, bilious attacks, flatulence, skin blotches and bad breath to which over-weight women and men are subject.

For constipation you should take Pinkettes. These little laxative pills are absolutely harmless. They effectively disperse the waste matter, keep the food tract clean and active, and painlessly exercise and strengthen the lazy bowels. Keep free from constipation and liverishness by taking Pinkettes, and you will keep free from the unpleasant, distressing symptoms and ungainly fat. Get Pinkettes to-day. Obtainable at all chemists.

PINKETTES

Help You Slim.

WANTED KNOWN

BOX 171. "Valley" reply delayed transmission. At Club evening 24th. If desired look over, Club 5-6 27th, 3-4 28th. If letter criterion, happy accept "rinks." Apply Box No. 180 c/o "The China Mail."

PUBLIC AUCTIONS

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

SATURDAY, 28th December, 1940
commencing at 10.30 a.m.

at their Sales Room,
No. 35, Hankow Road, Kowloon.

**A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**

comprising:—
Teakwood Bed Room, Dining Room, Drawing Room and Office Furniture, Cutlery, Ornaments, Curios, Pictures, E. P., Brass, Glass and Porcelain Ware, Gramophones & Records, Electric Heaters, Table Fans and Lamps, Crockery, Cooking Utensils, etc., etc.

**A QUANTITY OF BLACKWOOD
FURNITURE**

On View from Friday, the 27th December, 1940.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.
**LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.**

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

MONDAY, 30th December, 1940
commencing at 10.30 a.m.
at No. 12, Kennedy Terrace,
2nd Floor.

**A QUANTITY OF VALUABLE
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE**

On View from Sunday, the 29th December, 1940.

Terms: Cash on Delivery.
**LAMMERT BROS.,
Auctioneers.**

Hong Kong, 26th Dec., 1940.

**THE CHARTERED BANK
OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA
AND CHINA.**

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1853.

Paid-up Capital £3,000,000.
Reserve Fund £3,000,000.
Reserve Liability of Pro-
prietors £3,000,000

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Branches: Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Tientsin, Tongkat, (Thuket), Yokohama.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business transacted.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and **FIXED DEPOSITS** received for One Year or shorter periods in Local and Other Currencies at rates which will be quoted on application.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS also opened in Local Currency and Sterling with interest allowed at rates obtainable on application.

The Bank's Head Office in London undertakes Executor and Trustee business, and claims recovery of British Income Tax overpaid, on terms which may be ascertained at any of the Agencies and Branches.

**HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.**

Authorised Capital \$30,000,000
Issued and Fully Paid-up \$20,000,000
Reserve Funds:—
Sterling £ 5,500,000
Hong Kong Currency Reserve \$10,000,000
Reserve Liability of Pro-
prietors \$20,000,000

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SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES of various sizes To Let.
TRUSTEE and **EXECUTOR** business undertaken.
Hong Kong 13th December, 1940.

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BANK.**

The Business of the above Bank is conducted by the **HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.** Rules may be obtained on application. **FOR THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**

V. M. GRAYBURN,
Chief Manager.
Hong Kong, 1st March, 1937.

**THE BANK OF EAST
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Authorised Capital \$10,000,000.00
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Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted. Loans granted on approved securities.

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**KAN TONG PO,
Chief Manager.**

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**LONDON BANKERS:—
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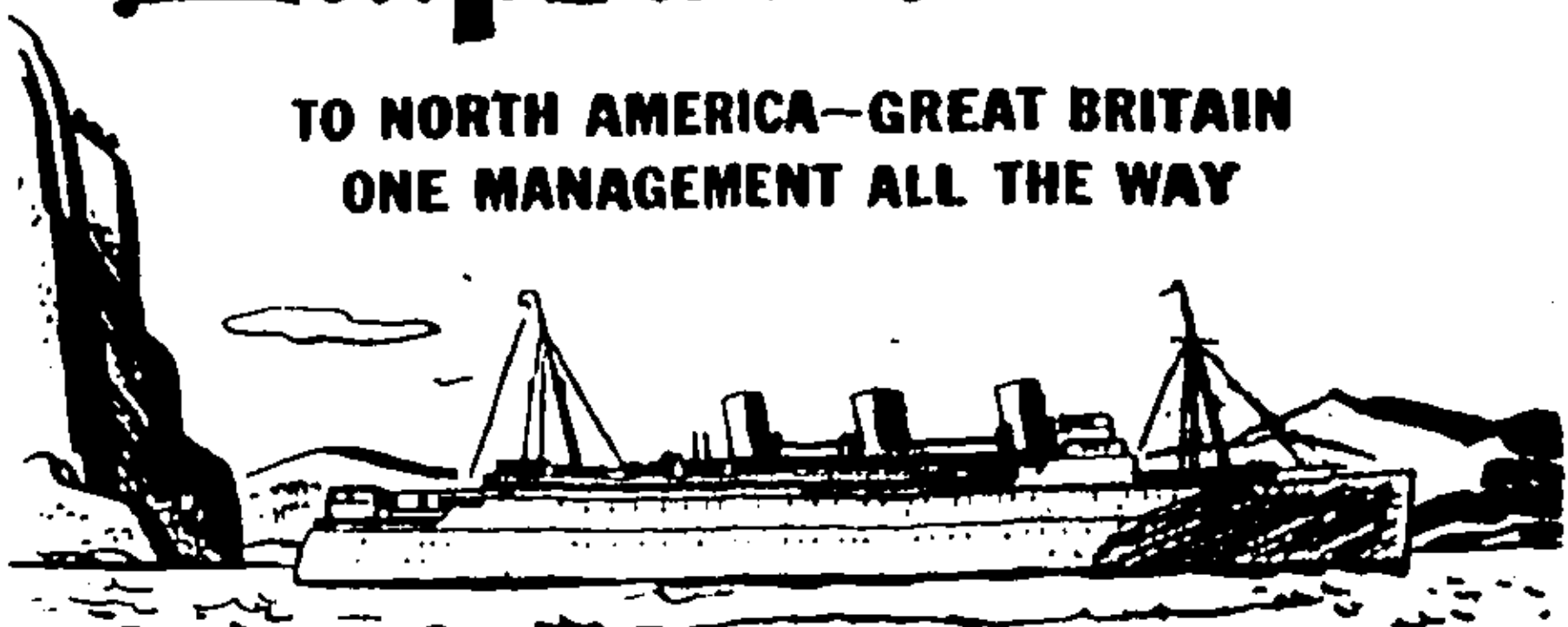
No. 10, Wyndham Street,

Hong Kong

Established 1896

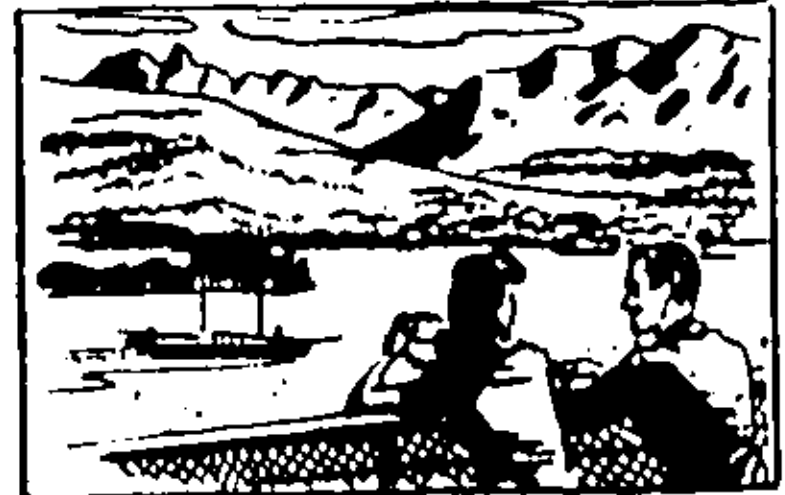
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In summer a side trip to Alaska is recommended.




Fast through AIR CONDITIONED trains from ship's side at Vancouver take you through the Majestic Canadian Rockies—Lake Louise, Banff—600 miles of travel through Marvelous Mountain Scenery. Niagara Falls and the Great Lakes can be included as optional routes on your coast-to-coast trip. Stop over anywhere you wish.

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KEELUNG via Swatow & Amoy

CANTON

Buenos Aires Maru 21st Jan, 1941. (Passengers acceptable from Kobe).

Hawaii Maru 31st Dec.

Melbourne Maru 26th Dec.

Sirogane Maru 26th Dec.

Sirogane Maru 30th Dec.

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S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE January 3

S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT January 17

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S.S. PRESIDENT TYLER January 9

S.S. PRESIDENT MONROE February 9

TO MANILA

S.S. PRESIDENT PIERCE December 28

S.S. PRESIDENT TAFT January 10

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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

FRIDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.

London and Straits

SATURDAY

Swatow

SUNDAY

Canton

Sandakan

MONDAY

Calcutta, Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore.

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 24th December.

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

FRIDAY

Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways." K.P.O. & G.P.O.

Reg. 4.00 p.m.

Ord. 4.30 p.m.

Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United Kingdom via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)

K.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.

Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.

Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."

K.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.

Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.

Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Straits, Rangoon, and Calcutta.

Parcels 5.00 p.m.

Letters 7.00 p.m.

SATURDAY

Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.

..... 3.30 p.m.

SUNDAY

Canton Noon.

* Subscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.

12.28 p.m.—Mozart—Concerto in D Major ("Coronation").

1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Weather Report.

1.03 p.m.—Dance Music by Carroll Gibbons and Orchestras.

1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 p.m.—Variety.

2.15 p.m.—Close down.

5.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.

6.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 p.m.—Dance Music.

7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.

7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.

7.30 p.m.—Latest Variety.

8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 p.m.—Band Music.

8.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Under the Crooked Cross". A Feature Programme.

9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.

9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Books and People".

9.45 p.m.—A Russian Programme.

10.09 p.m.—Ravel—Sonata for Piano.

10.20 p.m.—Cesar Franck—Symphony in D Minor.


11.00 p.m.—Close down.

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Made on order
Just when you
want it. H.P.
Sauce is better
than any other.
It's rich, truly
savory, tangy
and appetizing.

NYKLINE



SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu.

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.

SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Helan Maru Saturday, 25th Jan.

SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo &

San Francisco.

*Akagi Maru (starts from Kobe) Wednesday, 16th Jan.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila

Atuta Maru Monday, 30th Dec.

HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS

*Hakodate Maru Friday, 10th Jan.

(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)

BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo

Kasima Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

*Matue Maru Tuesday, 31st Dec.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore

*"Matumoto Maru" Tuesday, 31st Dec.

*Genoa Maru Sunday, 12th Jan.

KOBE & YOKOHAMA

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

Kamo Maru Wednesday, 22nd Jan.

Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.

* Cargo only.

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General Passenger Agents in the Orient for

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Richardson Scores Century Before Lunch; Fine Knock Spate Of Runs In Game Between Club, Wanderers

HULSE'S FINE FORM

The annual Married v Singles cricket match, played at Craigengower Cricket Club yesterday, was featured by the brilliant all-round form of A. J. Hulse, who took 4 for 39, including the hat-trick, for the bachelors and then went on to score 74 not out and thus play a big part in the defeat of the Benedicts by nine wickets.

The Married men had first lease of the wicket but their batting was inconsistent and they were all out for 131. Lock was top-scorer with 27, scored out of 55, and Youngsaye, Joe Leonard and A. R. H. Esmail also made useful scores.

Hulse conceded 28 runs in six overs without taking a wicket but he then had a spell of

O. M. R. W.

2 0 3 4

and finished with 4 for 39.

With the last two balls of his seventh over he took the wickets of Leonard and Youngsaye and with the first ball of his next he clean-bowled Shroff to register the hat-trick.

Billimoria bowled very steadily to take 5 for 46 in 12.1 overs.

The Bachelors were given a start by Archie Hung and Norman Broadbridge, who added 38 for the first wicket, and Hulse, coming in at the fall of Hung's wicket, then proceeded to hit the bowling all over the field, scoring no fewer than 74 out of his unbroken second wicket partnership with Broadbridge of 94. He hit 14 fours.

MARRIED

T. Lock, b Souza	27
W. K. Way, b Billimoria	5
E. Zimmern, b Billimoria	0
J. L. Youngsaye, c Ladd, b Hulse	20
J. W. Leonard, c S. Leonard, b Hulse	17
C. W. Lam, c S. Leonard, b Billimoria	8
N. M. Shroff, b Hulse	0
G. H. A. Morris, st Hung, b Hulse	3
A. R. H. Esmail, c and b Billimoria	22
U. H. Esmail, b Billimoria	1
A. N. Other, not out	4
Extras (B3, LB20, NB1)	21
Total	131

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Hulse	11	1	39	4
Billimoria	13.1	2	46	5
Souza	4	0	11	1
Solima	2	0	11	0

SINGLES

A. Hung, c Lock, b Lam	23
N. Broadbridge, not out	22
A. J. Hulse, not out	74
Extras (B9, LB4)	13

Total (for 1 wkt.)

G. Souza, P. J. Billimoria, S. Leonard, E. H. Esmail, S. R. Solima, L. Choa, G. S. Ladd and T. Edgar did not bat.	132
---	-----

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
U. H. Esmail	3	0	24	0
Lam	6	0	19	1
Way	6	1	35	2
Esmail	3	0	17	0
Youngsaye	2	0	18	0
Leonard	1	0	6	0

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By "Adrem"

RUNS WERE CHEAP AT HONG KONG CRICKET CLUB YESTERDAY, NO FEWER THAN 561 BEING SCORED IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY FOR THE LOSS OF ONLY 11 WICKETS, AND CLUB DRAWING WITH WANDERERS.

Honours of the match go to J. E. Richardson, who, opening for Club, scored no fewer than 137 before lunch and was finally dismissed with his total at 144. In partnership with Ride he added 105 for the second wicket and again with Perry he added 119 for the third wicket. His best scoring strokes were a six, a five and 24 fours and he was at the wickets for about 110 minutes for one of the most brilliant innings seen on the Club ground for some time.

Ride had six fours and Perry a six and seven fours.

At 2.45, with the total at 308 for four and with Owen Hughes and Bosenquet batting confidently, Club declared.

Wanderers Bat

Faced with such a formidable task Wanderers set about the Club attack with confidence although John Pearce was dismissed early on by Owen Hughes. Alec Pearce and Grose scored freely, hitting anything overpitched with great power and hooking the shorter stuff with gusto. When they had added 137 for the second wicket, Grose, who latterly had been having a dip at everything, was caught by Kilbee off Perry for a useful, although not classical, innings of 72. In the course of this knock Grose must have cow-shotted on more occasions than he has done since his arrival here but the means was justified by the end and Wanderers, on his dismissal, had more than a sporting chance of winning. On Pearce being bowled, however, something of a rot set in until the arrival of Coombes, who played a carefree innings of 72, most of the runs coming from straight and on-driving and powerful hooking.

Grose hit 12 fours, Pearce six and Coombes a six and 13 fours. Lloyd bowled very steadily and was always difficult to get away, while Owen Hughes, although coming in for a fair amount of punishment, always looked like getting wickets.

HONG KONG C.C.

J. E. Richardson, c and b T. A. Pearce	144
T. G. C. Knight, b Head	11
L. T. Ride, b.w., b Coombes	44
A. E. Perry, c J. L. C. Pearce, b Dewar	48
H. Owen Hughes, not out	31
D. I. Bosanquet, not out	20
Extras (B2, LB1, W5, NB2)	10

Total (for 5 wickets, dec.) 308
R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, L. D. Kilbee, N. D. Lloyd and G. J. P. Carey did not bat.

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Head	5	0	25	1
Finnie	4	1	19	0
Dewar	9	2	54	1
J. L. C. Pearce	2	0	18	0
T. A. Pearce	10	0	97	1
Coombes	6	0	59	1
Swyer	3	0	28	0

WANDERERS

Major Grose, c Kilbee, b Perry	72
J. L. C. Pearce, b Owen Hughes	4
T. A. Pearce, Knight	52
Major Swyer, c McLellan, b Owen Hughes	5
A. H. Coombes, not out	77
Capt. Freeman, b Owen Hughes	0
Capt. Head, b Owen Hughes	12
Capt. Dewar, b McLellan	1
Capt. Peal, not out	2
Extras (B25, LB1, W2)	28

Total (for 7 wickets) 253
Surge-Comdr. Enrie and Capt. Bialre did not bat.

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Knight	8	0	42	1
Owen Hughes	10	2	63	4
Lloyd	8	1	57	0
McLellan	10	0	43	1
Perry	2	0	14	1

MADAR, PARSONS AND ANDERSON BAT WELL

Featured by fine innings by Madar, Parsons and Anderson, the intra-club match at K.C.C. between Over 30's and Under 30's resulted in a win for the seniors by 24 runs.

OVER 30'S

E. F. Fincher, l.b.w., b Burch	7
T. A. Madar, c F. R. Zimmern, b Anderson	36
S. A. Gray, b Burch	0
R. Baldwin, c Anderson, b Burch	7
E. C. Fincher, c and b Anderson	6
A. N. Other, c Burch, b F. R. Zimmern	14
J. W. Bertram, run out	0
E. Curtis, c Anderson, b Broadbridge	7
W. Parsons, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmern	59
H. Brokenshire, not out	6
S. O. Else, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmern	0
Extras (B27, WB1)	23
Total	190

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
F. Zimmern	8.5	0	39	3
Burch	7	1	25	3
Baxter	3	0	29	1
Anderson	5	2	13	2
Broadbridge	2	0	14	1
Giffen	3	0	19	0
A. Zimmern	2	0	18	0
Rapley	2	1	5	0

UNDER 30'S

D. Hung, c and b Baldwin	4
R. T. Broadbridge, b Baldwin	25
F. R. Zimmern, c E. C. Fincher, b Curtis	10
K. M. Baxter, Curtis	6
L. R. Burch, run out	5
F. Crabb, b Curtis	0
A. Zimmern, b Baldwin	37
D. J. N. Anderson, not out	64
W. L. Rapley, b E. F. Fincher	6
G. W. Giffen, l.b.w., b E. F. Fincher	0
A. N. Other, b Curtis	0
Extras (B9)	9
Total	166

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Curtis	8.6	0	68	4
Baldwin	9	0	47	3
E. F. Fincher	5	1	26	2
Parsons	4	0	16	0

ALL-ROUND FORM OF W. STOKER

GOOD ALL-ROUND FORM BY W. STOKER PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE VICTORY OF THE EUROPEAN STAFF OF THE HONG KONG ELECTRIC COMPANY OVER THE LOCAL STAFF IN THEIR ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH AT SOO-KUNPOO YESTERDAY.

Stoker hit six fours in an innings of 45 and he was given good support by Barron, who made 24. Hassan was in fine form with the ball for the Locals and took 4 for 15.

With Stoker, Gahagan and Way bowling steadily, Locals were only able to total 72 leaving the European Staff winners by 59 runs.

EUROPEAN STAFF

C. E. Gahagan, c Haroon, b Hassan	0
J. McKenna, c Butt, b Razaack	12
A. F. Paul, c Butt, b Razaack	6
W. Stoker, c U. A. Ramjahn	45
B. K. M. Ramjahn	0
A. G. Gardner, c Hassan, b Bux	0
J. R. Way, b Bux	9
J. F. Barron, b A. R. Minu	24
R. F. Gregory, c Marques, b Hassan	11
W. E. Macfarlane, not out	12
H. S. Jones, c Butt, b Hassan	0
J. K. Sloan, b Hassan	0
Extras	12
Total	131

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
M. B. Hassan	5.7	1	15	4
M. I. Razaack	2	0	16	2
S. A. R. Bux	4	0	12	1
G. M. Butt	4	0	32	0
A. A. Adem	1	0	27	0
K. M. Ramjahn	4	0	27	1
A. R. Minu	2	0	11	1

LOCAL STAFF

K. M. Ramjahn, c Gardner, b Stoker	6
M. L. Razaack, c Stoker, b Gahagan	11
U. A. Ramjahn, c Gahagan, b Stoker	8
S. A. R. Bux, c Gregory, b Gahagan	5
C. V. Marques, b Gahagan	0
M. B. Hassan, c Macfarlane, b Way	14
A. K. Minu, std. Paul, b McKenna	21
A. R. Minu, c Gregory, b Stoker	1
G. M. Butt, c Barron, b Way	1
M. Adem, not out	1
I. Haroon, l.b.w., b Gardner	0
Extras	6
Total	72

Bowling Analysis

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Stoker	5	0	24	3
Gahagan	4	0	20	3
Way	2	0	3	2
Gardner	2	0	13	1
McKenna	0.6	0	6	1

VOLUNTEER CRICKET XI

The following have been selected to play for Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps in a friendly whole-day cricket match against Royal Scots at Soekunpoo on Sunday, starting at 11 o'clock:—
L. T. Ride, K. J. Attwell, K. M. Baxter, N. D. Booker, D. Hung, D. McLellan, N. A. E. Mackay, A. E. Perry, D. O. Parsons, W. Stoker and A. Zimmern.

KWANTI CASH SWEEPS

Following are the results of cash sweeps at the Kwanti Race Meeting held yesterday:—

RACE 1	
No. 112	\$1,194.26
" 834	341.21
" 724	170.61
Tickets Nos. 262, 874, 308, 1015	gets \$50 each.
RACE 2	
No. 1161	\$1,326.42
" 483	378.97
" 267	189.49
Tickets Nos. 646, 1262, 23, 782, 993, 1133	get \$50 each.
RACE 3	
No. 861	\$1,655.81
" 1114	473.09
" 4	236.54
Tickets Nos. 1377, 1021, get \$50 each.	
RACE 5	
No. 780	\$ 889.00
" 971	254.00
" 415	127.00
Tickets Nos. 801, 1691, 1123, 1515, 562, 1052, 205, 452, 794, 198	gets \$25 each.
RACE 6	
No. 1583	\$1,803.64
" 702	523.04
" 1830	261.52
Tickets Nos. 603, 1516, 1867, 261, 1767	get \$50 each.
Amber II	22179
Circe	53140
Colorado Star (3)	19620
Dick Turpin	40755
Forehand Drive	51746
Heinz	8519
Lovely Cat	3447
Quick Despatch (1)	25697
Rising Star (2)	51430
Ruby Star	10261
Roofly	12421
Schmetterling	50187
Sea Urchin	17665
Surprise Again	34397
Tarzan	5787
1st Prize	\$26,008.42
2nd Prize	7,430.97
3rd Prize	3,715.49
Unplaced ponies (whether starters or not):	\$344.02 each.

K.C.C. CRICKET SELECTION

Kowloon teams to play the Indians to-morrow are:

First (home).—E. C. Fincher, N. D. Lloyd, D. J. Anderson, D. Hung, W. L. Rapley, R. T. Broadbridge, E. F. Fincher, A. Zimmern, F. R. Zimmern, F. J. Lay, T. A. Madar, Scorer, T. W. Carr, Umpire, J. P. Robinson.
Seconds (away).—S. A. Gray, E. Curtis, K. M. Baxter, H. Brokenshire, L. R. Burch, J. R. Luke, F. Goodwin, G. A. Goodban, R. J. Fenton, George Giffen, B. D. Lay, J. W. Bertram (12).



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PORTUGAL GIVE ENGLAND A SCARE IN CHARITY MATCH.

Marques Plays Brilliant Game In Goal For Losers

Freshwater And Hendy Shine For England

By "Referee"

LOSING THE SERVICES of A. V. Gosano, ten minutes from the start, Portugal battled heroically against England in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition at Kowloon Football Club yesterday to lose by the odd goal in five after sharing two goals at the interval.

More was expected of England. They were the heavier team and generally better all round but the Portuguese forwards, particularly Gomes and Santos, were far nippier and gave the English defence a trying time. Forced to play with only four forwards, they nevertheless came near scoring on several occasions.

Wilkinson and Coomer were absentees from the English team and Britt and Saw came into the team. Britt filled Wilkinson's position ably but Coomer's absence in the forward line was felt badly. Fox was played on the right wing to permit Saw to be in the inside position, but he was hopelessly out of position, and though Fox sent over good centres at times he was not the force he might have been in the centre-forward berth.

A Better Move

A better move would have been to play LePage on the wing with Fox, as a centre-forward or inside right. LePage has played on the wing before and he would have balanced the forward line better.

England were disappointing at times. Their forwards were slow in front of goal and their passes were often badly placed. Only the height and weight of the defenders prevented Portugal from snatching a win late in the game.

Bright used his head to great advantage in the pivotal position and though he found Gomes and Santos troublesome at times generally had them well marked. Britt played soundly until his injury which forced him to leave the field for a time. Pope, on his right, was sound in his marking and clearances.

Freshwater played well at left-back and proved the greatest obstacle to the Portuguese forwards.

He tackled quickly and without hesitation with the result that Campos had little chance against him.

Roughley, his partner, also played well and though less conspicuous than Freshwater did his share of the work well.

Hendy Troublesome

In the forward line Hendy was the most troublesome. He scored all the goals for England. He was always in the thick of things and spared nothing in his way. He led his line well and though B. Gosano kept a close watch on him at all times he was always dangerous.

LePage and Saw tried hard to make openings for their leader, but the former was handicapped by Fox on the right wing, while it was only occasionally that Bickford, on the left, was able to get a free run.

Outstanding players for Portugal were V. Marques in goal, B. Gosano, when at centre-half, and Gomes and Santos in the attack. Had Portugal been fitter they would have easily turned the tables on England in spite of the absence of A. V. Gosano.

Marques, in goal, played a great game and contributed in no small measure to Portugal's narrow defeat. It must have been years since he played in goal but throughout the game he was safe in his handling and in the closing stages merited the applause given his brilliant saves.

B. Gosano played soundly in the pivotal position and though he did not find time to feed his forwards as he would have liked, proved a great stumbling block to the English attackers and was often responsible for the break down of many a dangerous move.

Neither of the backs were re-



The Scots soccer team, which caused one of the biggest local sports sensations in years when they beat China in the "Sunday Herald" Cup Charity Competition on Christmas Day.

liable under pressure. Alves had a much easier time than Remédios and while he cleared well his clearances were not well placed.

Maxwell was safe at right half and often came out with the ball in his tussles with Bickford and Saw.

Live wires of the Portuguese attack were Gomes and Santos. They were badly handicapped without a leader and both worked hard. Santos was the most troublesome and in spite of his lack of weight did well against the English defence. His positional play brought Campos into the picture with neat runs down the wing and centres which unfortunately were not turned into account.

Alves was sadly in need of practice while Gomes worked hard, often dropping far behind to assist an overworked defence.

Portugal did most of the attacking in the opening period of the game, A. V. Gosano playing well in the centre-half berth while the forward line was seen in some fine movements.

A. V. Gosano was injured in a collision with Hendy and had to leave the field but in spite of

Football Highlights

BY "REFEREE"

ECLIPSING all other performances in the soccer world for some years past was Scotland's sensational victory over China in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition on Christmas Day at Boundary Street. To turn a deficit of 4 goals to 1 at half time to a 6-5 victory is in itself no mean feat but Scotland, with a team composed for the most part of Royal Scots players, whose battalion team has done nothing of note, to eliminate a Combined Chinese team who for many years past have swept everything before them, is a display that will long be remembered in the annals of local football.

Several years ago, Scotland, with what was considered a weak team, put up a remarkable fight against China on the Club ground only to lose by the narrowest margin. On that occasion the team was managed by J. McKelvie, who also managed this year's Scottish team. How far McKelvie's advice to the players contributed to China's defeat only the players can fully appreciate.

Fraser, with his superb display at back, dispelled any doubts in the minds of Association and Army officials that he is one of the best backs in the Colony. It was mentioned before that he does not do anything spectacular

in his position but on Christmas day, he was the outstanding defender on the field with his quick-tackling, good covering and powerful clearances. His partner Wainwright also rose to great heights and these two formed a bulwark that did not crumble in the second half against the continued and persistent attacks of the Chinese forwards.

Bankier's good all round display is worthy of some recognition and it would be a horrible misfortune if the Army selectors were not present at this game. He definitely came into the limelight in the second half with some good saves.

There is no doubt that Fraser, captain of the team, knew his own players. He brought in Munro, generally a forward and one of the reserves, into the team as a wing-half in place of Hutchinson and this player did well.

This Royal Scot half-back line with Falconer in the centre-half berth and Clarke at left-half would do credit to any Army side. All tackled quickly and rarely gave the Chinese forwards a chance in the second half.

Two players, Howlett and Ferrier, and two players only made all the difference to a forward line that had failed miserably in all their League matches.

Hossack the leader did more than was expected of him. He worried the Chinese every time, kept his wingers well supplied with passes and never once took it for granted that a ball would be cleared or go over the line; he kept going for the leather.

Howlett and Ferrier added much needed punch to the attack. Howlett used his weight judiciously, while Ferrier was seen in some neat movements.

The wingers, after a shaky start, improved beyond recognition, Marshall working well with Ferrier and Garrie and Howlett leading Ng Kee-cheong a merry dance.

The venture of using the Police ground for representative games was a great success. The control of the ground was excellent and the accommodation as great as any in the Colony. There was only one fly in the ointment and that was the lack of lavatory accommodation within the enclosures. Some grounds in Hong Kong are without these facilities but the public are aware of this fact and make provision for this. A remedy in this respect would make Boundary Street an excellent venue for big games.

None will mind Scotland's victory, except the POOR. Charley will now have to spend his money on approximately \$2,500 to beat China in the final, the Chinese public will not be there to see the match.



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Steve's Secret Weapon

Sparkling Essex all-rounder, Captain J. W. A. Stephenson, has just released a good "secret weapon" story without, I fancy, submitting same to censor, writes a Home correspondent.

While on night patrol in Flanders he always carried with him two cricket balls.

The idea was that if in the dim light he was surprised it would have been quicker to hurl a ball at the enemy than to draw his pistol.

"I believe the 'Jerry' would have been so startled that even if he wasn't knocked down he would fall down to escape my 'hand grenade' and give me the chance to get in first," he says.

"I can almost hear Steve: 'How's that?' if and when he had run his man out."

"JACKER'S" MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

THE PRESIDENT OF THE YORKSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB, SIR STANLEY JACKSON, HAS RECEIVED MANY CONGRATULATIONS ON THE MIRACULOUS ESCAPE OF LADY JACKSON AND HIMSELF WHEN THE HOUSE THEY WERE SLEEPING IN GOT A DIRECT HIT. THIS IS SIR STANLEY'S SECOND "NEAR THING."

When he was Governor of Bengal, a girl student approached his table at a public meeting in Calcutta and started to open fire with a revolver.

"What did you do, 'Jacker'?" Inquired an old friend at their first meeting on Sir Stanley's return to England.

"Nipped under the table pretty quick. Wouldn't you?" replied "Jacker."

Five shots were fired, and even an old cricketer couldn't be asked to wait for the completion of the over.

By far the greatest amateur all-rounder since A. G. Steel, they still talk in Yorkshire of Jackson's share in that game 38 years ago when his five for 12 and Hirst's five for nine didn't leave much for the other Yorkshire bowlers against Joe Darling's first Australian team here.

BOON'S BAD BLUNDER

The Liverpool contest between Ernie Roderick and Eric Boon (writes Norman Hurst) revealed that Boon is not ready for the welterweight championship class yet.

I saw only one occasion when he had a chance and he missed it.

A swinging punch starting from his hip landed on his opponent's jaw, Roderick stumbling backwards into the ropes.

I looked for an immediate furious onslaught from Boon but he stepped back, waited for Roderick to recover, then held out his hand to his opponent before continuing the fight.

That ultra sporting gesture was misplaced and cost him dearly. Boon had created a wonderful opportunity. He failed to collect. That is all there is to it.

From then on Roderick boxed to the back, never gave him a chance, dropped him five times, and when the final bell rang it was a very much battered Boon, bleeding at the nose and one eye closed.

HOME RUGBY

Three Rugby Union matches were played at home yesterday, the results being:

Gloucester 28 An Army XV 3

Public Schools 14 Land Public Schools 3

—Reuter.



T. K. L.'s Confusion Bay (Mr. S. L. Sung up) being led in after winning the Hong Kong Autumn Champions by a head from Burford in record-breaking time. It won this same event last year. (Kahn).

COTTAGE CLUB HUNT

The Cottage Club paper-hunt on Christmas Day for the President's Cup was won by Robin Blake, who beat Van Rynberg, who came second, by a very close margin.

Up to the last moment the hunt was completely in the hands of

Miss Kiki de Chaffoy, who had bad luck in being bumped off the course in the last 50 yards and her pony did not finish the race between the flags.

There were 25 starters for the hunt, which was run over seven miles of good grass country.

Yesterday, the Club President and Committee were "At Home" to members and their friends at their annual Christmas Tiffin.

GERMANS ARE STEALING FRENCH THOROUGHBREDS

THE GERMANS HAVE been sorting out the best of the thoroughbred breeding stock in France, and sending many of the horses to Germany, writes J. H. Park.

Germans would be the first to appreciate the value of French bloodstock, because French horses have regularly won the chief German race prizes.

They have made a clean sweep of the Grand Prize of the Reich and the Brown Band at Munich.

Nearly all the finest studs in the country were in Normandy, which is part of the German occupied territory.

Most of the horses in training were taken to the Bordeaux district when the invasion began, but it was not possible to secure travelling facilities for all the mares, foals, yearlings and stallions in the breeding establishments.

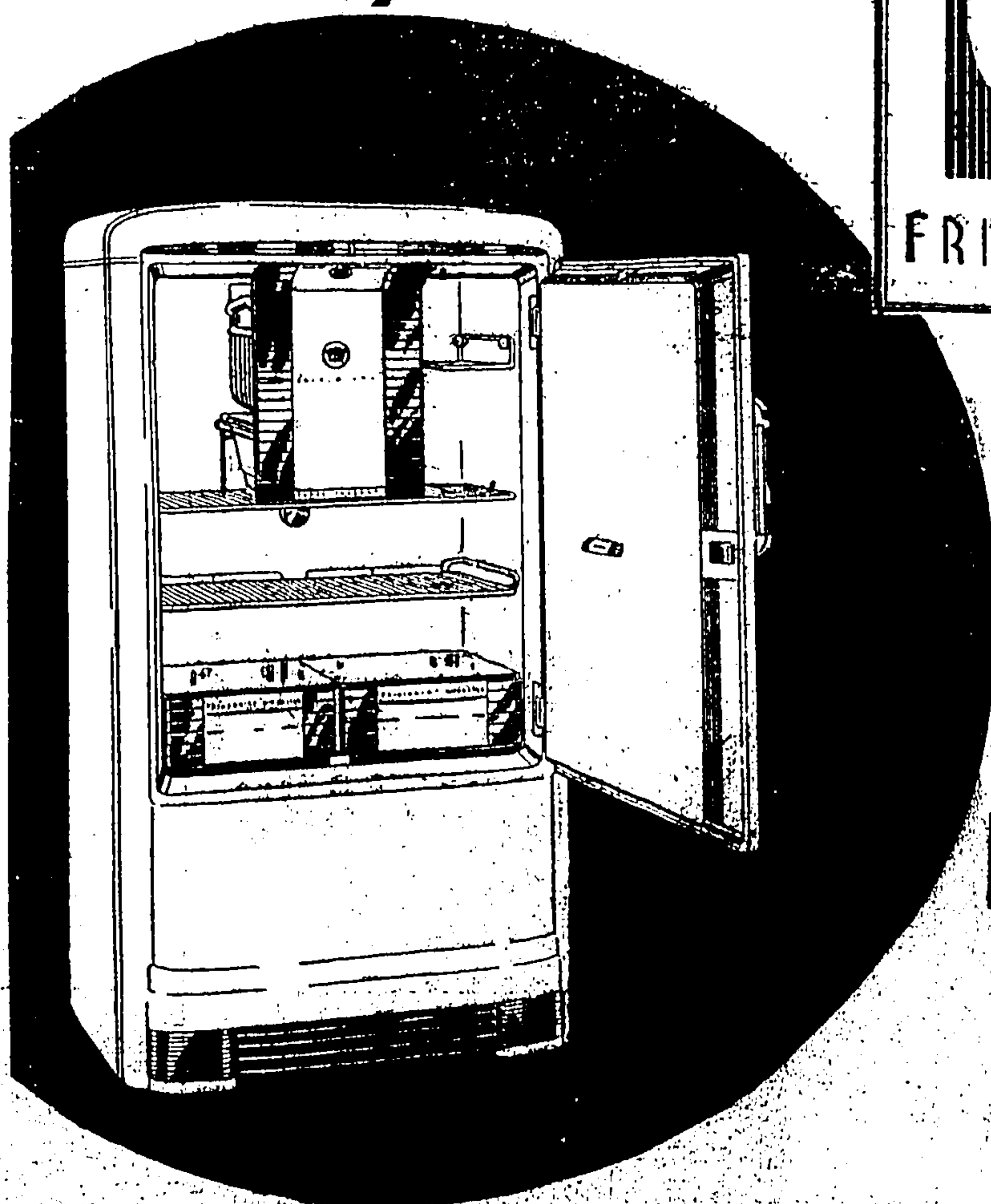
A few of the more valuable stallions were evacuated but the majority of the mares and young stock had to be left behind. The stud employees were sworn to secrecy. They promised not to divulge the identity of the various animals. No doubt the Germans have discovered some means of finding out what they want to know.

The value of the breeding stock in Normandy had to be reckoned in millions of pounds in pre-war days. It is to be feared all that has been lost to the former owners.

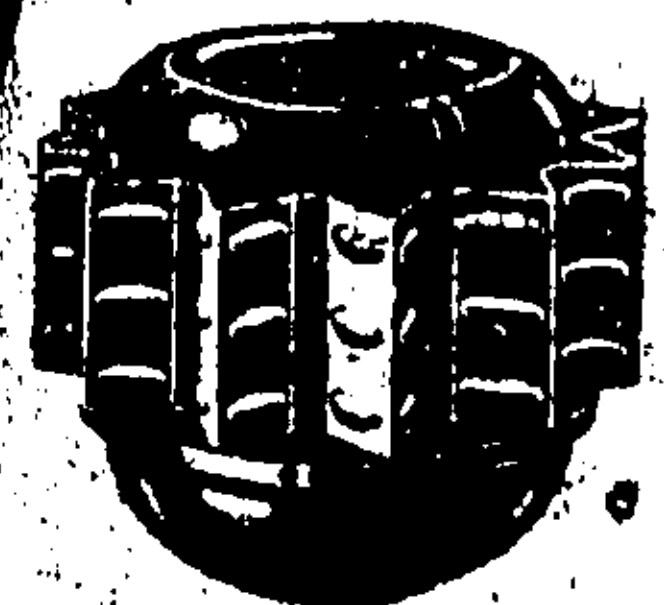
K.B.G.C. CLOSING DAY

Kowloon Bowloon Green Club will hold their annual Lawn Bowls Closing Day on Saturday when members will be "At Home" to their guests. Lawn Bowls games will commence at 2.30 p.m. These will be followed by the presentation of prizes won during the year.

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CHRISTMAS AIR LULL

Interpreted In America As Tacit Restraint

LONDON COMMENT ON TRUCE

Poor visibility may have enforced the Christmas bombing "truce," Reuter's air correspondent is informed.

It was emphatically denied in London yesterday that the absence of British and German raids is the outcome of any official or unofficial understanding.

The following comment was made yesterday: "The weather has been bad enough over the Channel."

"Low cloud and fog have been the rule since Christmas Eve. Added to this the nights have been particularly black and no moon."

Christmas Influence

"It would be idle to suggest that Christmas has not influenced those in command of operations at all, but if the weather had been good I think we should have seen the usual activity."

There is no doubt that the personnel of both the R.A.F. and the Luftwaffe welcomed the rest, and it has been a factor of no small psychological importance that bombing crews have been able to forget their war work for a time and enjoy to the full the season of peace.—Reuter.

No German Or British 'Planes Raid

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE PRINCE OF PEACE brought peace to the British and German peoples over Christmas, and in deference to the season Germany and Britain refrained from inflicting modern war on each other.

At the apparent suggestion of Germany, both sides recognised a tacit Christmas truce and not a single German aeroplane was reported anywhere over the British Isles.

The German big guns on the continental side of the English Channel remained silent, as did British coastal batteries in the Dover area.

Germany, through neutral diplomatic quarters, intimated she would refrain from air war during Christmas if the British did.

British official quarters refused to admit that the British Government had entered into any truce agreement with the Germans.

Nevertheless no British bombers left for the usual raids over Germany and German-occupied territories on the Continent.—International News Service.

NOT IMPRESSED

THE NAZIS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GAIN SOME SORT OF REPUTATION FOR VIRTUE OVER THEIR ABSTINENCE FROM BOMBING OVER THE XMAS HOLIDAYS, BUT MR. SOL BLOOM, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IS NOT IMPRESSED.

He said on Christmas night:—"A man or a nation cannot become devoutly religious on one day of the year while committing crimes of the worst sort on the other 364."

"You cannot trust a criminal or a gangster." — Reuter.

PEACE URGE FINDS ECHO IN SPAIN

The Pope's appeal for peace has found a ready echo in Spain.

Formerly rather a fiery newspaper, the "Arriba," official organ of the State Party, yesterday carried a leader expressing great satisfaction at the virtual Christmas "truce," the fact that on Christmas Day there was no air activity over either Germany or England having already been given prominence in the Christmas newspapers.

"Arriba" expresses the hope that this may be a symptom of the possibility of peace.

The paper says: "Spain to-day as then, when General Franco on the first day of the war examined the conflict, continues unwaveringly in her position."

As a matter of fact, in the speech referred to by the newspaper, General Franco ordered Spaniards to observe the strictest neutrality but following Italy's entry into the war Spain became a non-belligerent.—Reuter.

EGYPTIANS DEBATE POLICY

The Egyptian Chamber of Deputies, after a three-day secret debate, by 122 to 68 yesterday passed a vote of confidence in the Government's foreign policy.

The Prime Minister, Sirry Pasha, winding up the debate, declared the danger to Egypt was remote after the British victory, but Egypt was continuing its defence preparations.

Sirry Pasha said the Government's policy was based on fulfilment of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty and on defence of the country.

Egypt was loyally carrying out the treaty.

Result of the debate revealed general agreement with the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the parliamentary session when Sirry Pasha (then Prime Minister) collapsed, and died.—Reuter.

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BUTTER

HITLER'S TROOPS STREAMING INTO RUMANIA

Red Army Matching The German Moves

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

A MOVE IN THE NEW YEAR BY THE SWIFTLY ENLARGED GERMAN ARMY IN THE BALKANS, POSSIBLY SOMEHOW AFFECTING RUSSIA AS WELL AS BULGARIA, YUGOSLAVIA, GREECE AND TURKEY, SEEMED FORESHADOWED LAST NIGHT BY LARGE-SCALE NAZI TROOP MOVEMENTS THROUGH HUNGARY INTO RUMANIA.

Hitler's troops streaming by rail across Hungary appeared to be fastening virtual complete military control in Rumania, where the German "model army" is being increased to between 200,000 and 500,000.

Meanwhile, travellers reported that Russia is matching the German moves by reinforcing Red Army garrisons and augmenting artillery, guns and planes in the frontier regions of Bessarabia and eastern Poland.

The whole Balkan situation is marked by mounting tension which threatens to come to a head.

Enlargement of the Nazi army in Rumania has evoked intense speculation regarding its true motives and aims. One theory is that Hitler may be finally preparing a move to aid Mussolini by striking at Greece's north-eastern Salonika region through Bulgaria or Yugoslavia.

Turkey's Warnings

Such a move would risk the possibility of counter-action by Turkey, which has warned against any thrust into Thrace.

It is believed the Nazi movements might be connected with Soviet-German relations, reported to be strained by the Russian demand for control over all mouths of the Danube River. International News Service.

BELGIAN CALL TO ARMS

A "call to arms" to all Belgians between the ages of 19 and 25 has been issued by the Belgian Consul-General in New York, M. Charles Halleart.

It also includes reserve officers and volunteers between the ages of 16 and 36, who will also be accepted for service.

The announcement says: "Belgian units are now being formed in England to fight side by side with the British and Allied armies."

"Belgians in countries not occupied by the German army are affected by this decree and should consult their nearest consul regarding their present military status." — Reuter.

Petain's Firm Stand Against Nazi Demands

After receiving pledges from military commanders in North Africa and the Near East that they are ready to defend the French Empire against any attacks, Marshal Petain was reported in Vichy last night to be maintaining a firm attitude in the face of German pressure.

It was learned that Marshal Petain remains unalterably opposed to any collaborative moves that might lead France back into the war beside the Axis against Britain.—International Service.

JAPANESE ARMY MAN'S STARTLING FRANKNESS

LITTLE HOPE FOR an early total collapse of the Chungking Government, "unless some radical change occurs in the world situation in future," is seen by Colonel Hayao Mabuchi, Chief of the Army press section, in an article in the Tokyo "Nichi-Nichi" to-day.

He says: "Many people in this country seem to have an idea that the conclusion of the tripartite alliance has turned the international trend in favour of Japan, but in my opinion this is now steadily drifting towards the other direction—favourable to the Chungking regime."

"For Britain and America have finally determined to help out the Chungking Government following the conclusion of the tripartite pact and accordingly there is little hope for a total collapse of that regime unless some radical change occurs in the world situation in the future."

"At present the China affair is complicated — so complicated that it cannot be comprehended thoroughly by mere common sense."

"Japan is fighting the troops of General Chiang Kai-shek on the soil of China but a defeat of these troops will not bring about a solution of the current Sino-Japanese hostilities."

Cream Of China

"Most of the Chinese now collected under the banner hoisted by General Chiang represent the cream of the Chinese people, with a flaming love for their country."

"Standing behind them are Britain, America and other countries which intend to maintain the old order in East Asia by helping out the Chungking Government." (Continued on Page 16)

HITLER TAKES LOOK AT ENGLAND

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

It was disclosed in London last night that Hitler took a look at England on Christmas Day, when he stood on the chalk cliffs above Boulogne, from which some Napoleon once beheld Britain's shores.

The dramatic episode climaxed an inspection tour up and down the North-French coast, during which Hitler saw the shores

and soil of England for the first time in his life.

Hitler, in a speech, emphasised his confidence in German victory, saying: "Before us lies freedom and with the future of our people. Behind us are bitter experiences."

— International News Service

GREEKS ADVANCE 2 MILES

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

The Greeks celebrated Christmas by further advances in the southern coastal and central sectors in Albania.

An advance of two miles was made by the Greeks who are pushing the Italians back north of Chiraka.

In the Tepelini sector several additional fortified positions have been occupied by the Greeks.

Meanwhile the Greek High Command announces a series of skirmishes in which both Italian soldiers and war equipment were seized. — International News Service.

Top news from the field of science this year was the brand-new electric refrigerator for home use. Resulting from more than three years of rigid laboratory tests and experiments, the new refrigerator is triple-acting for new-perfect preservation of all types of food.

A product of the extensive laboratories maintained in Philadelphia, Pa., by the Philco Radio and Television Corp., the new device, while no larger than the ordinary present day refrigerator, embodies three types of cold storage compartments in the unit. The first three compartments are for dry all-purpose storage, for maintaining meats, such as butter, milk and eggs, in a second compartment, and for frozen food, such as ice cream and frozen meats, in a third compartment. The new refrigerator is designed for quick freezing, and is also designed for frozen food and deserts.

Besides the electric freezing unit which operates on Freon, the most economical and practical of all known refrigerants, the new refrigerator also has an aluminum Moist Cold Shelf. This addition is a brand new invention and evolves from a process perfected by Philco technicians. When

dishes of food come in contact with the shelf, heat is quickly drawn out and the food is chilled almost immediately. Strangely, too, the more dishes placed on the shelf, the faster it works.

The new refrigerator operates by the controlled circulation of dehumidified air which eliminates completely usual refrigeration odours and assists in further preservation of foods with no mixing of odours. Another advance in the new refrigerator is the use of two shelves in the first door, and in shelves to hold ready-to-use frequently used and often needed items. A second door prevents escape of cold air every time the refrigerator is opened.

The new refrigerator, according to Philco engineers, represents the most important step in food preservation since the development of the electric refrigerator itself.

Every model is within your reach, and the agents will be only too pleased to give you a demonstration without obligation. All you need to do is phone 27484 or 27017 (Hong Kong) or 86038 (Kowloon), or write for further information to the local agents, Messrs. Gilman & Co., Ltd., 44, Des Voeux Road, C. Gloucester Arcade, or 132, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

ITALIANS AND THE CHURCHILL MESSAGE

In a Portuguese broadcast, Rome Radio declared:—
“While London declares that the Italians did not have the courage to publish the speech, all the Italian papers reported it in full.”
The Turkish radio doubted the truth of that statement, and deduced from German and Italian comments that the text of the speech was not given verbatim in either country.
The Turkish radio was correct — for Rome Radio declared in an English broadcast:—
“All the Italian papers have published practically the entire text. We regret that they couldn't publish the whole of it owing to the fact that there was more important news to be printed.”
London commentators point out slyly that the New York newspapers found nothing of more importance or to crowd it out of their papers! — Reuter.

The Pope's address was also remarkable, seeing that it was delivered from Rome at this season. His Holiness' summary of the five points for which all true Christians should practice was the most telling indictment of the whole totalitarian policy that could conceivably be made, especially in the exceptional

Exports were £21,008,181 compared with £23,390,911 in October and £37,860,827 in November last year.—British Wireles.

Food experts regard the position of fats as a very important one for a country's staying power, and they say that the

The Ministry has found that only about 90 to 95 per cent. of the present ration is used. — Reuter.

No greater contrast to the usual blustering boasts and noisy fulminations of the Axis leaders could possibly be imagined. — Reuter.

INFLATION IN JAPAN

OFFICIALS OF THE BANK OF JAPAN MOVED TO CHECK THE CONTINUED INFLATIONARY TREND AS THE TOTAL NOTE ISSUE WHEN THAT INSTITUTION OPENED YESTERDAY MORNING SET A NEW HIGH RECORD OF Y4,405,000,000.

In the meantime loans outstanding had reached Y585,000,000.

This demand for loans is attributed to the need for funds to pay dividends, also to the lag in Government payments. — Reuter.

BRITAIN'S WAR TRADE

Imports into Britain during the month of November, stated the Board of Trade yesterday, reached a total of £72,930,486 compared with £85,095,560 in October and £84,042,757 in November last year.

Figures for food, drink and tobacco were £26,721,000 against £32,607,000 in October and £38,657,000 in November last year.

Exports were £21,688,181 compared with £23,390,911 in October and £37,360,327 in November last year. — British Wireless.



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SUDAN FRONT NO PLACE FOR THE SQUEAMISH

Kassala Unsafe In Watches Of Night

(By Reuter's Special Correspondent in the Sudan).

BRITISH PATROLS IN THE KASSALA SECTION OF THE 1,200-MILE SUDAN-ABYSSINIAN FRONT ARE BECOMING MORE ACTIVE AND AGGRESSIVE AND ALTHOUGH THIS RAILWAY TOWN, WHICH IS SITUATED INSIDE THE SUDAN 20 MILES FROM THE FRONTIER, IS HELD BY THE ENEMY, ITS STREETS HAVE BECOME DANGEROUS AT NIGHT FOR UNWARY ITALIAN TROOPS.

Men are found dead in lonely alleyways and at street corners in this once peaceful trading centre, and men lock their doors, fearful of soft-footed Sudanese troops who are repeatedly stealing into the town under cover of darkness, seizing an occasional prisoner, killing a dozing sentry or merely "borrowing" some cases of beer or chianti.

On one occasion Sudanese entered the town, arrested a notorious enemy native agent as he was lying asleep by his house and carried him back to the British lines.

HUSBANDS' MEETING TO-NIGHT

The public meeting called by the Evacuation Representation Committee begins at the Peninsula Hotel this evening at 6 p.m.

Main items for discussion are past developments and proposals for future action.

WARNING BY GEN. PAI CHUNG-HSI

"THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE KUOMINTANG PARTY WILL FALL AND THOSE WHO REFUSE TO CARRY OUT THE ORDERS OF THE HIGH COMMAND WILL BE DENOUNCED BY THE ENTIRE NATION," DECLARED GENERAL PAI CHUNG-HSI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF OF THE CHINESE ARMY.

General Pai was speaking at a meeting of military leaders in Chungking, called to commemorate the anniversary of the Yunnan Revolt against Yuan Shih-kai.

After declaring that the present time is the golden period of Chinese resistance, General Pai pointed out that any quarters wishing to prejudice the national unity for their own selfish interests would be committing the gravest crime against the Chinese nation and would be digging their own graves. — Reuter.

All along the border British patrols and small parties of the Sudan defence force are hustling the enemy back towards the frontier.

There has been a series of hide-and-seek ambushes among the enemy bushes and tall grass of the bush country.

Occasionally there is a larger operation when a mechanised patrol of the Sudan Defence Force waylays some Italian column which becomes too venturesome, but the British harassing tactics, originally designed to contain the enemy forces, are now having the effect of slowly pushing the Italians back.

Italian Main Body

The main body of the Italian army is concentrated at Asmara and Agordat, in Eritrea, supporting Kassala, and in northern Abyssinia around Gondar and Lake Tana, supporting Gallaabat.

There are also large concentrations in the neighbourhood of Addis Ababa.

Cat-And-Mouse

The British and Imperial troops have now been reinforced and fully equipped and are lying in wait like a cat watching a mouse along the whole front, while the Italian hold on Abyssinia is also threatened by General Cunningham's forces on the Kenya border.

Inside Abyssinia itself the tribes are growing more restless.

The flame of revolt is being further fanned by the R.A.F. who are incessantly bombing Italian strongholds within sight of discontented tribesmen. — Reuter.

RHODESIAN GESTURE

The Secretary of State for the Colonies, thanking the children of Nchang, Northern Rhodesia for giving up their own Christmas presents to contribute £140 for British children in bombed areas, says: "It will bring happiness to many children who are homeless and know the children of Nchang to know that the immediate surrender of their own presents will earn them the special gratitude of these children and their parents." — British Wireless.

EGYPTIANS DEBATE POLICY

The Egyptian Chamber of Deputies, after a three-day secret debate, by 122 to 68 yesterday passed a vote of confidence in the Government's foreign policy.

The Prime Minister, Serry Pasha, winding up the debate, declared the danger to Egypt was remote after the British victory, but Egypt was continuing its defence preparations.

Serry Pasha said the Government's policy was based on fulfilment of the Anglo-Egyptian Treaty and on defence of the country.

Egypt was loyally carrying out the treaty.

Result of the debate revealed general agreement with the Speech from the Throne at the opening of the parliamentary session when Serry Pasha (then Prime Minister) collapsed and died. — Reuter.

WANCHAI SHOOTING

A PEDESTRIAN WAS WOUNDED IN THE HEAD WHEN AN INDIAN POLICE RESERVIST FIRED A SHOT AT A NUMBER OF MEN FLEEING TO ESCAPE ARREST IN WANCHAI AT ABOUT 12.30 A.M. TO-DAY.

The man has "been admitted to hospital but his condition is not serious."

Summoned by police whistles to Spring Garden Lane, the Reservist ordered a rowdy crowd to disperse. Apparently, some resented the interruption and an argument resulted in which the alleged ringleaders attempted to assault the Reservist.

Chasing the men through several streets, the Reservist fired a shot at them to compel them to stop. The men, however, escaped.

BOMB DROPPED ON ISLE OF SHEPPEY

The Air Ministry and Ministry of Home Security state that a single enemy aircraft dropped bombs in the Isle of Sheppey (in the Thames Estuary) early yesterday afternoon. Little damage was done and there were no casualties.

There is nothing further to report. — British Wireless.

MARQUIS, 61, TO WED AGAIN

The engagement was announced of the Marquis of Aberdeen and Mrs. Guy Innes, widow of Captain J. W. G. Innes. Lord Aberdeen is sixty-one. He was formerly married to Mrs. E. Cockayne, of Sheffield, who died in 1937.

WEATHER REPORT

The Royal Observatory reports that a strong anticyclone covers the whole of China, pressure being highest over Mongolia. A depression is moving eastward across north Japan.



Mothers and children from the L.C.C. areas and East and West Ham are still being evacuated to safe areas outside London. Photo shows an amusing study of a tiny tot examining the identification label of her companion. (Copyright, Fox).

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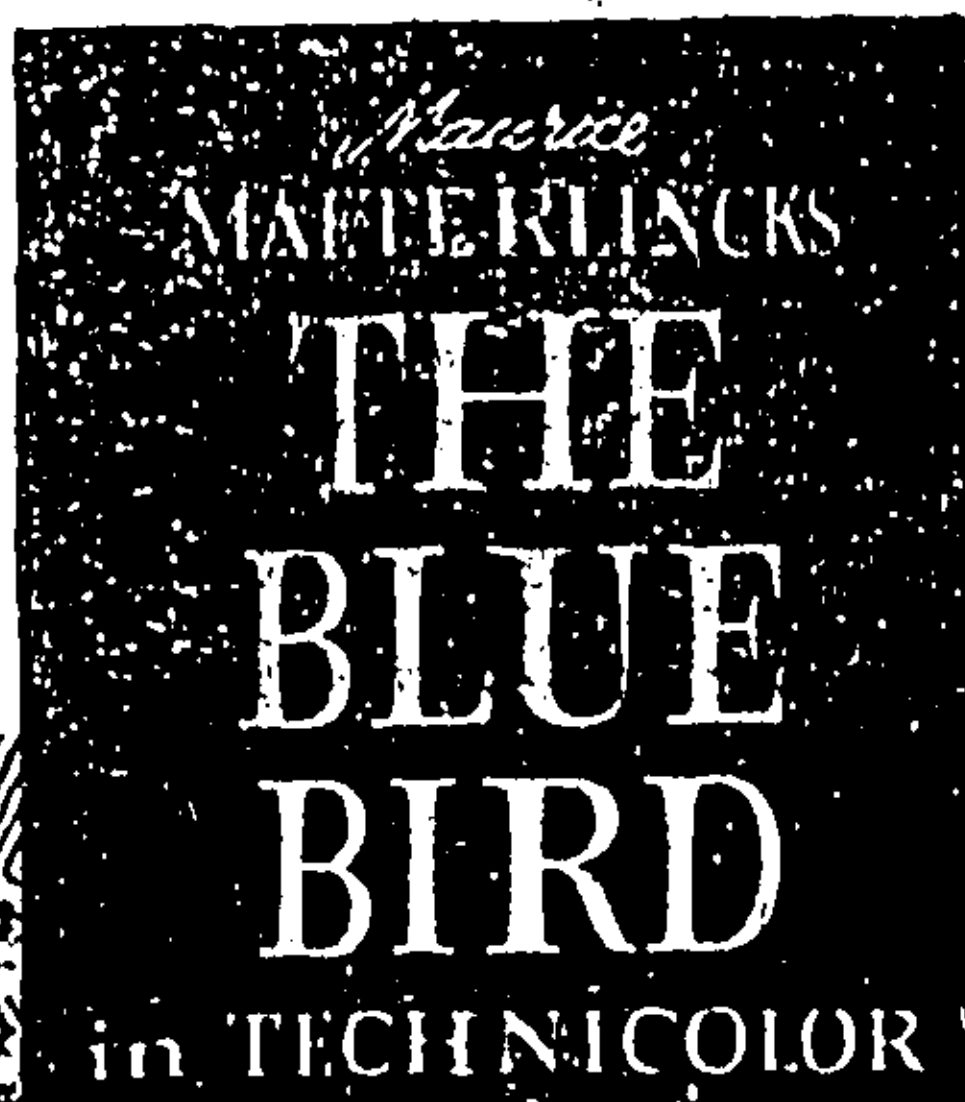
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NAZIS TRY PEACE PROPAGANDA FOR A X'MAS DIVERSION

IN BROADCASTS directed to Britain, the
German Radio has been plugging away on the
lines of "Why should Britain go on with the
war?"

Several recent broadcasts directed at Bri-
tain have asserted that the British Govern-
ment has had several opportunities of getting
peace.

It is not supposed in London
that the Germans really expect
much to result from this "peace
propaganda," especially when one
takes into consideration the con-
tinual statements in German
home broadcasts that the war will
be a long one and that Britain is
not easily overcome.

All this German radio and
press campaign has given the lie
to Marshal Braunschitsch's state-
ment that "the English Channel
protects Britain only so long as
it suits Germany."

Thus, the "Berliner Borsen Zei-
tung" says that in achieving and
undertaking a task of such mag-
nitude "a few months more or
less is of no importance."

There has been a lot of com-
ment outside Germany in the
contrast between these warnings
to the German people and the
suggestion to the British people
that Britain should make
peace.

Some commentators take it as
a sign that Hitler is probably still
hoping to get out of his present
predicament by a peace offensive,
the essence of which would be to
eliminate British opposition while
leaving him still in possession of
the countries he has over-run in
Europe. — Reuter.

PUBLIC OPINION

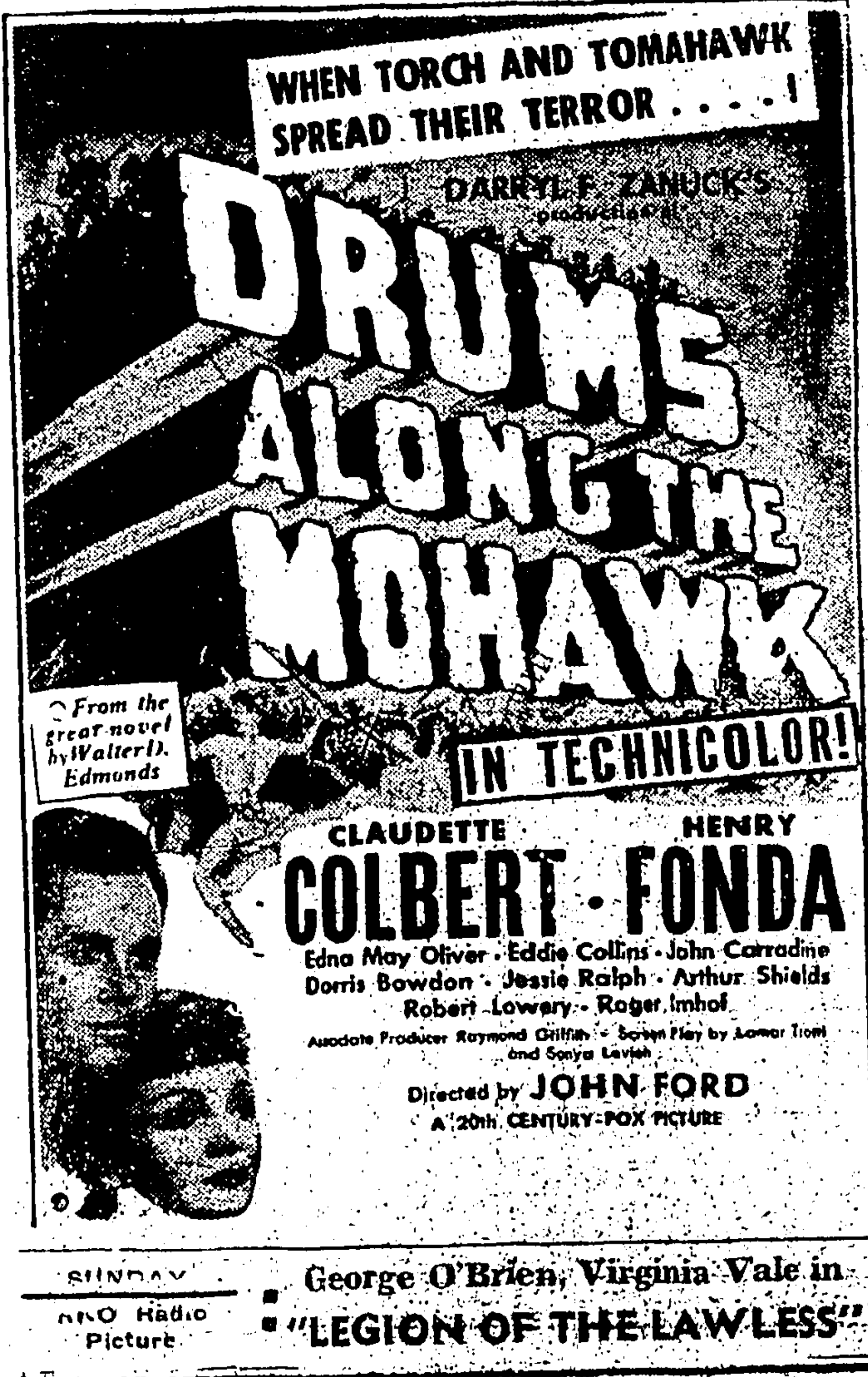
The announcement that the
Vichy Government has decided to
release French officers captured
at Dakar has drawn from Gen-
eral de Gaulle the rejoinder that
he welcomes the fact that French
public opinion compelled the re-
lease of these officers and non-
commissioned officers, whom un-
til recently Vichy intended to
bring before a court martial.

General de Gaulle added that
it is, however, clearly understood
that the step taken by Vichy will
in no way modify the safety mea-
sure taken regarding certain
generals and senior officers ar-
rested by the Free French forces
in the course of recent police
operations in the Gabon. — Reu-
ter.

THEFT OF PAINT FROM GOVERNMENT

Charged with stealing paint
from the Yaumati Government
Slipway yesterday, Tsang Fan, 31,
painter, was remanded for 24
hours by Major A. N. Macfadyen
at Kowloon this morning.
Mr. V. H. W. Chittenden was
complainant.

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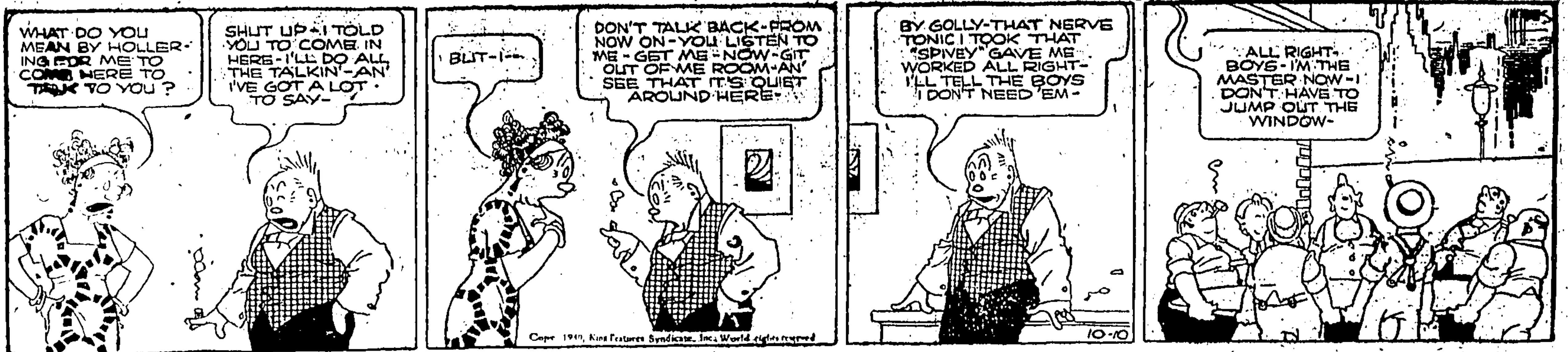
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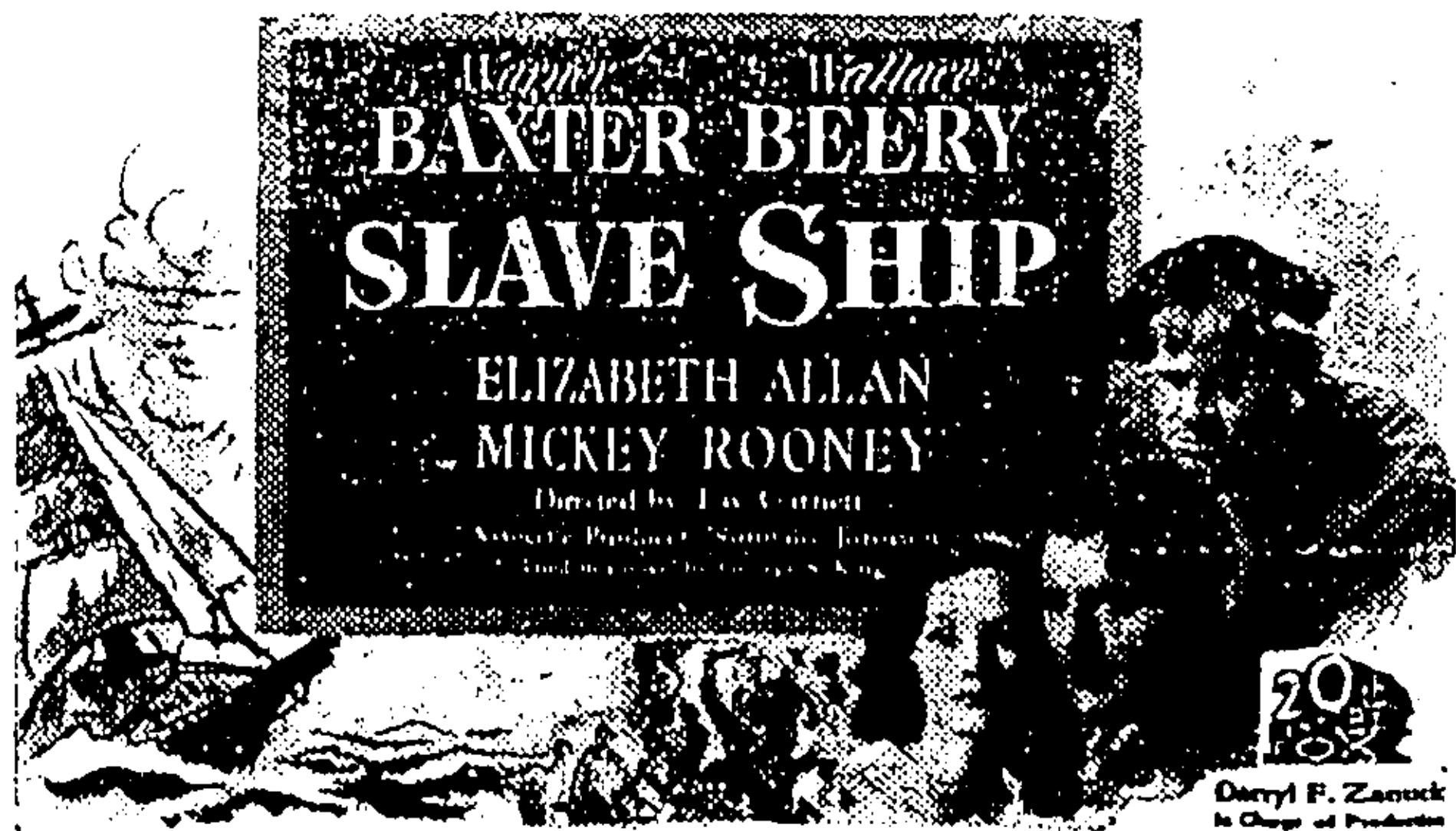
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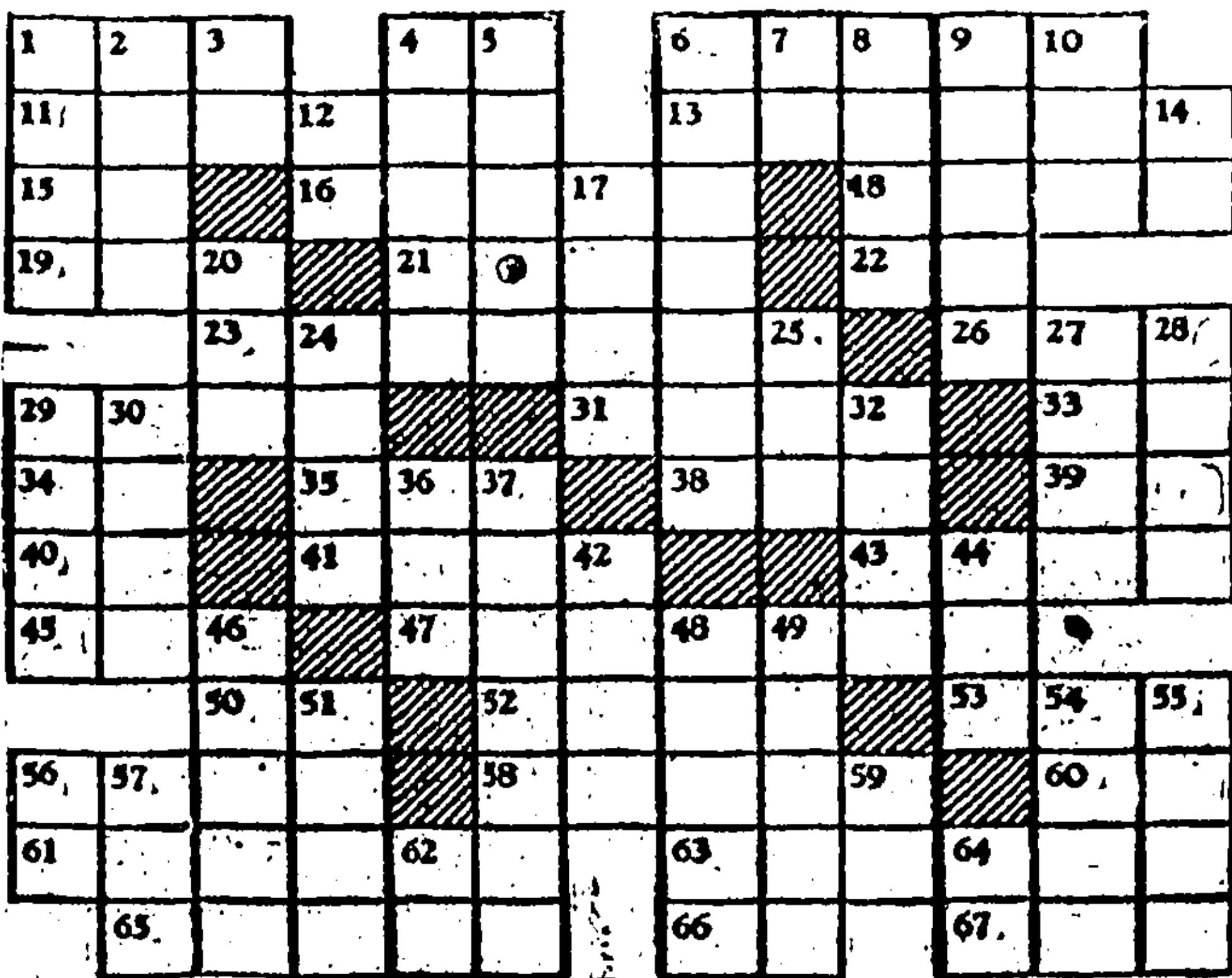
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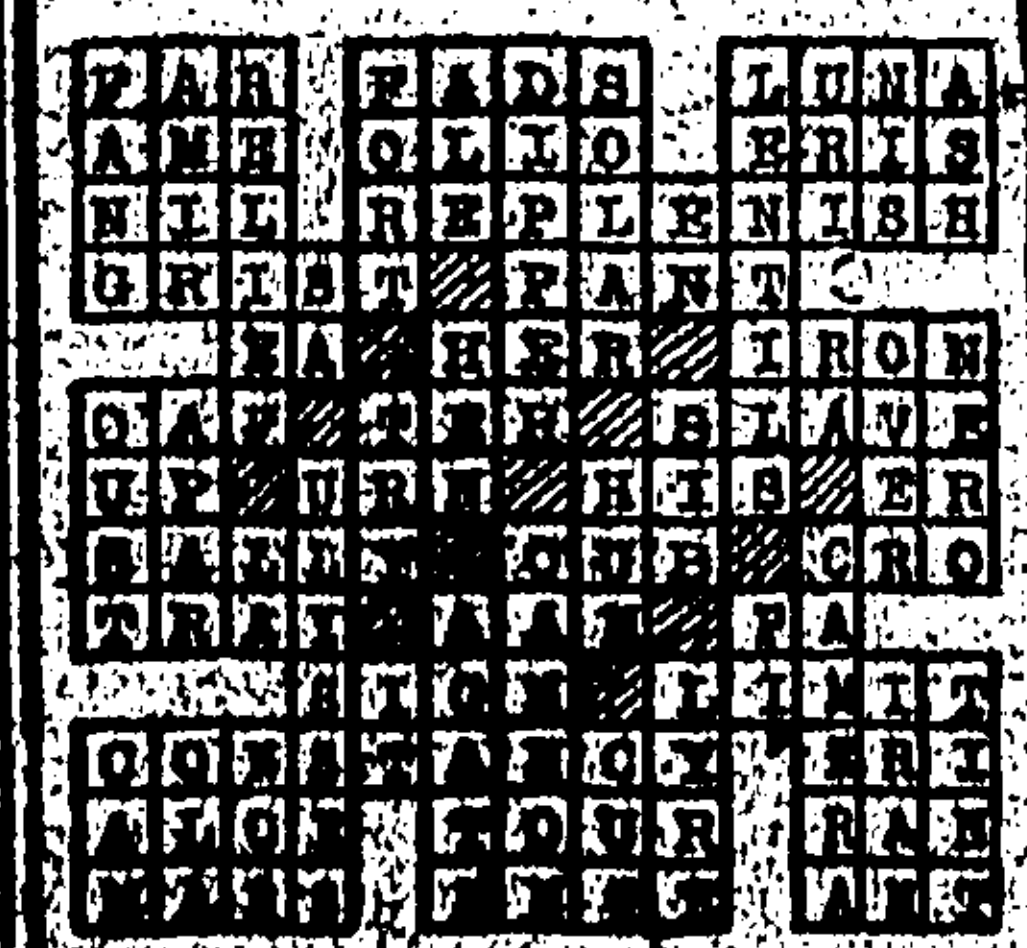
OUR 10-MINUTE CROSS-WORD



- HORIZONTAL**
- 1 Greek letter
 - 4 While
 - 6 Destroyed
 - 11 Peruvian animal
 - 13 Is available
 - 15 Note of scale
 - 16 Muffled
 - 18 City in Nevada
 - 19 Beverage
 - 21 To become fatigued
 - 22 Symbol for actinium
 - 23 Stripped the blubber from
 - 26 Label
 - 29 Stringed instrument
 - 31 To give forth
 - 33 Seal
 - 34 King of Bashan
 - 35 Worm
 - 38 Nahoor sheep
 - 39 City in Chaldea
 - 40 Indian mulberry
 - 41 Chair
 - 43 Fork-tailed gull
 - 44 To colour
 - 47 To forbear
 - 50 Artificial language
 - 52 Poet
 - 53 Swimming bird

- VERTICAL**
- 1 Pastry
 - 2 To the sheltered side
 - 3 Preposition
 - 4 Sharp
 - 5 Silk cloth
 - 6 Saves
 - 7 Article
 - 8 River in Russia
 - 9 To build
 - 10 Lair
 - 12 Part of "to be"
 - 14 Therefore
 - 17 Gaelic
 - 20 Astern
 - 24 Dregs
 - 25 Upbraid
 - 27 Astrigent salt
 - 28 To pierce
 - 29 Burden
 - 30 Repulsive
 - 32 Motor cab
 - 36 Ocean
 - 37 Day of rest
 - 42 Former Russian ruler
 - 44 Girl's name
 - 46 Muse of poetry
 - 48 Moment
 - 49 Grownup
 - 51 German river
 - 54 Part of the eye
 - 56 Old Irish infantryman
 - 58 Hypothetical force
 - 59 To soak
 - 60 Compound paint
 - 62 Symbol for selenium
 - 64 Six

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



LUCKY FLIGHT

"Lucky B" flight of the R.A.F. Middle East Command met eighteen of the enemy one evening. There were six R.A.F. aircraft but the Italians lost four and possibly a fifth aircraft.

Next morning "Lucky B" was at it again, five of them meeting seven Italians, of whom five were shot down.

The British Flight Lieutenant, a Londoner, was disappointed in the evening flight. "We were chasing them all over the sky," he said. "There seemed to be clouds of them, but I simply could not get anything in range that night." "Whatever I approached just disappeared and I was left by myself. They just went off towards the ground, relying on their camouflage to get them away."

Next morning however this Flight Lieutenant was engaged against three of the enemy with nobody near them. One of the Italians was going up into the sun, a second was ahead and a third on the Flight Lieutenant's beam. The one ahead was sent spinning down into the sea by a burst going through his wing. The Flight Lieutenant put a burst through the tail of another of his adversaries and the Italian immediately fell spinning to the ground. The third disappeared apparently engaged by another British aircraft.

A visit to these R.A.F. pilots in their desert camp leaves one with the impression that they are supremely confident in their superiority over the enemy. Their one desire is to meet him on every possible occasion.

E. G. M. — NOT O. B. E.!

Among the awards gained recently by members of the W.A.A.F. are two which sometimes give rise to misunderstanding—the Medal of the Order of the British Empire for Gallantry, and the "medal of the Order of the British Empire for Meritorious Service."

Both these awards are in the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire. But neither of them carry the title to the initials "O.B.E." or "M.B.E." These refer to the fourth and fifth classes of the Order, i.e. "Officers" and "Members" respectively, either civil or military.

Holders of the Empire Medal for Gallantry are entitled to place the letters "E.G.M." after their name, "on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary." The Meritorious Service Medal carries no such distinction.

Both the Gallantry and meritorious Service medals are of silver; and are worn on the left side, suspended from a clasp of rose pink riband edged with pearl grey and with a vertical pearl grey stripe in the centre.

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DEFEAT OF AXIS AS AXIOM OF U.S. POLICY

MORE THAN 150 American citizens have urged President Roosevelt to "make it the settled policy of the United States to do everything that may be necessary to ensure the defeat of the Axis Powers." This was announced by the White House yesterday.

In a letter to the President the group, which includes editors, lawyers, educationalists, actors and religious and labour leaders, appeal for everything possible to be done to promote "resistance to the plausible but fatal arguments of appeasement."

Evidently to let President Roosevelt know what they consider a large section of the United States people would like to hear in his broadcast on Sunday, the letter continues:—

"We ask you to tell us what we believe to be the truth—that the materials of war and the military, naval and air strength we now have, and the implements we can produce, are enough to make certain the defeat of the Axis powers, so long as Britain is on her feet and fighting; but that with Britain down they are not enough and may not in future be increased enough to hold the whole world at bay."

The Signatories

The signatories include Hamilton Fish (Republican Representative for New York), Henry Breckenridge (well-known New York lawyer), Douglas Fairbanks, Dwight Morrow and Dorothy Thompson (the famous columnist). — Reuter.

THE TASK OF 1941

"IF WE CAN HOLD ON DURING 1941, WHAT THE UNITED STATES CAN PRODUCE GIVES US THE CERTAINTY OF ULTIMATE VICTORY," SAID SIR WALTER LAYTON YESTERDAY, SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO BRITAIN FROM A TOUR OF AMERICA.

The aid the United States will be able to give will become a "positive avalanche," he added.

The U.S. effort will begin to mature during the summer and will reach its climax next winter and in the spring of 1942. — Reuter.

JAPANESE TROOPS REPULSED

A Japanese contingent pushing eastward from Hsuehchow, in north Kiangsu has been repulsed.

Chinese troops have smashed into Hsuehchow in the district of Huaiyang in north Anhwei, setting the Japanese supply depots and shops selling Japanese goods on fire. — Central News.

TOM MIX CUTS OUT 4 OF HIS WIVES

Tom Mix, the cowboy star of the silent films who was killed in a motor-car accident in Arizona left his "faithful horse and partner, Tony," to his lawyer, Ivon Parker, according to his will.

One rider to the will reads: "I don't desire any of my former wives or my said daughter Ruth Mix in anywise to participate in this will."

His estate is to be divided equally between the widow, Mabel, and one of his daughters, Thomasina Mix Matthews. Tom Mix was married five times.

I CHAN SYSTEM NOW WORKING WELL

The I Chan (courier) transportation system has been functioning smoothly since its introduction.

Routes have been opened in various provinces in rapid succession.

To safeguard merchandise transported by the system, insurance for it will shortly be instituted.

The I Chan Transportation Administration of the Ministry of Communications is planning to open a class for the training of competent I Chan workers. — Central News.

LATE LORD LOTHIAN'S EFFORTS

Sir Walter Layton, the well-known economist, who has just returned to Britain from a Government mission in the United States in relation to supplies from that country, spoke yesterday of the last fortnight in the life of Lord Lothian, Ambassador in Washington.

Lord Lothian was particularly preoccupied with the financial position and had been criticised in some quarters in both countries for having spoken bluntly about the dollar position when he landed from the Clipper in America after his recent brief visit home.

Sir Walter said he knew Lord Lothian had deliberately made up his mind, having given the matter great thought, when held up at Lisbon before crossing the Atlantic, that American opinion ought to be prepared for the fact that the financial problem had to be regularised.

He was certain that his judgment was correct and this view had been amply justified by recent statements of President Roosevelt regarding his own solution of the dollar exchange problem arising out of British war supply orders placed in the U.S.

American Moods

Sir Walter added that in November there was a certain feeling of pessimism in America about the outcome of the war, to which such episodes as the bombing of Coventry had contributed, but this had been completely changed by the news of Greek victories and the British in Egypt.

The resistance of the British people to the bombing of English towns had created a stupendous effect in the United States. Sir Walter concluded that the British must not expect miracles. The full effect of American production would make ultimate victory certain. — British Wireless.

NAZI PILOT KNEW THIS PUB

A lorry driver was taking a crashed German pilot into Newport, I.O.W., when his passenger said: "Will you pull up at the Blacksmith's Arms at the top of the hill? I could do with a drink."

Harold Blow, the lorry driver, told this story after he had picked up the pilot, a lieutenant, 6ft 2in tall, who had baled out.

"I asked him how he knew where he was; and he replied that he had often been to the island, and knew every inch of it," said Blow.

"He also said that he knew Southampton well, as he used to go there in liners before the war."

"I drove him to my home and gave him a dinner because he said he was very hungry. He thanked me for the food, and then I telephoned the police and the military came for him."

DAVY JONES'S BOOT LOCKER

For stealing a pair of boots from near where a bomb had fallen, David Jones, fifty-two, a homeless labourer, was at Old Street, London, sentenced to six months' hard labour.

Detective Landsell told the court:

"This man says he was too drunk to remember what he was doing, but he took the boots from a pile of boots and shoes of all sorts of colours, shapes and sizes, and was sober enough to pick out a pair of his own size."



GERMANY'S OIL SUPPLY

That warlike nations without an adequate supply of oil must base their strategy on its acquisition amounts to a truism and Germany, having failed to deliver a quick, knockout blow against Britain while her oil supplies were at their height, is now forced to turn her attention and energy towards ensuring an adequate and continuous flow of this essential commodity. German intrigue in Rumania, culminating in the submission of that country to Nazi rule, was largely undertaken for the purpose of obtaining the entire control of Rumania's 2,231 oil wells. These wells unfortunately from Hitler's point of view, do not completely fill the gap between supply and expenditure. This continued lack can give the key to the German Fuehrer's next step in his war campaign.

The only remaining source of supply which could reach Germany without the need of crossing large expanses of water lies in Iraq and Iran and it is not difficult to assume that Mussolini's African campaign was intended not only as a preliminary step towards the Suez Canal but also towards these much coveted wells. The conquest of Greece would have also simplified the Axis move eastward. Iran alone produces some 10 million tons a year while the Iraq wells are at present only limited by the carrying capacity of the pipe-line to the Mediterranean through Syria and Palestine which handles two million tons annually. Italy's failure to defeat either Greece or the Imperial Forces necessitates some action by Hitler. Whether he will give Italy the requisite aid or stage another direct attack on Britain remains to be seen but it is not surprising under the circumstances that German troops are reported to be massing near the Yugo-Slavian and Hungarian borders and that they are already in Italy.

Germany's oil needs are calculated by the Britannica Year Book to amount to around 13 million tons annually but some American military and economic experts place the amount as high as 25 to 37 million tons of oil a year to win the Axis war. The discrepancy between these two estimates is large and is an illustration of the difficulties experienced in assessing with some degree of accuracy the size and equipment of Hitler's army. It is, however, clear that his supply falls far short of his needs. These are now increased by Italy's requirements, not to mention those countries in East Europe which normally consumed 26 million tons annually. This latter figure will, of course, be ruthlessly cut down but nevertheless, if industry is not to collapse completely their oil reserves must be tapped, however reluctantly. The British Blockade prevents further importation.

To off-set these requirements Germany is said to have a reserve of 6 million tons to which approximately 3 million tons of synthetic and natural oil produced annually in the country can be added. The Rumanian output of roughly 9 million tons is now entirely in German control as well as any exports that Russia is willing to spare. This extent of the latter's help is, however, very problematical. According to a recent announcement by the Soviet Commissar of the Oil Industry, Russia's oil production though better than in 1939 "is not yet sufficient." Russia also needs oil in increasing quantities herself and it is known that her reserves are being jealously guarded. Germany's position, while not yet acute, is thus seen to be far from satisfactory and Hitler's most urgent need, if he hopes to win the war, is to procure a steady flow of this "liquid gold." But where? Perhaps it will be found that oil, or rather the lack of it, will be as great a determining factor as food and morale in the final outcome of the war.

One of the curses of the modern age is narrow nationalism. Countries tend to think in terms of self-sufficiency, of national aims that take no account of the well-being of mankind as a whole. The tendency has been growing for about three hundred years and now found its extreme expression in Nazi Germany.

To the Nazis, Germany is the beginning and the end of everything; nothing that is not German is worthy of consideration. To bolster up this recrudescence of primitive tribal prejudice, German science has been turned into a harlot. She is forced to prostitute her integrity, to repudiate the truths she has helped to reveal, in paying lip-service to the spurious theory of Blood and Race.

Now Morality herself, nothing if not universal, has been shown the door. Her spirit had long been exiled from Nazi Germany, but up to a late hour she was in theory countenanced if not revered. Now even that pretence is dropped. She is banished by official edict and a Gorgon with the face of hell, the new German Morality, desecrates her abandoned altar. "Good is what is good for Germany," proclaims that well-named Priest of Falsehood, Dr. Ley. "Bad is what does not suit Germany's end."

This is the guiding spirit of the hordes that have over-run the greater part of continental Europe, a Europe where once Erasmus wandered freely to spread his liberal doctrines, where Pascal, Diderot and Voltaire were once honoured from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, and where students once journeyed from the Carpathians to Paris, from Brittany to Bonn, to imbibe the universal learning.

When this is what patriotism gone mad has brought about, I shall be understood when I say that I am not a patriot. But I have deeper reasons for knowing that even sane patriotism is "not enough." I do not believe that a man is necessarily a better man because he is an Englishman, an American, a Dutchman, a Chinese, or a Malay. I do not believe that any one country produces a constant standard of human beings, or can claim that its political system or method of life approaches perfection, that any one country can claim to impose its way of thought or its institutions on the rest of the world. We are under the moral obligation of taking the good where the good is to be found, irrespective of nation, and we are under the moral obligation of sharing those material resources of the world necessary to all nations, so that individual countries may enjoy their own method of life in prosperity and peace.

I firmly stand by the idea of universality. We must refuse to accept a man as a man or a woman as a woman by the mere fact that they carry a British passport. In the same way we should refuse to reject a man or a woman on the mere ground of their nationality. They must be judged in the light of universal values as men and women. These are the standards which I know decent Englishmen accept. Precautions in a war emergency are beside the point. It is only when fear or interest appeal to the tribal spirit latent in all of us that we are tempted to depart from them.

It is only the basest amongst us who would have us believe that mere nationality is enough. Our affection and our admiration must stand free to be claimed by those who merit it by the standards of humanity. We must be free to criticise the community to which we belong and to adopt what is found good from outside. Prejudices we have and cannot wholly escape from but they are no guide to judgment and, if we are to retain our integrity, they must be kept in their place.

This is the extent to which I am an internationalist. But I am aware that in the present state of the world's development we are far from the position when we can stand alone as individuals, as citizens of the world. As individuals we are feeble voices crying

in the wilderness. Mankind is by history and geography and other natural forces divided into units leading a corporate life. And just as cells must adhere to the body, to one of these organisms called nations we must belong. We must have a country to which we owe allegiance. Whether we like it or not we are units of some nation.

And, for better or for worse, I am an Englishman. And claiming my rights as an Englishman, I would ask you to bear with me while I give you my mere personal views as to where England stands to-day. And by you I mean not only the British overseas, but those who are local-born and yet share the British heritage and belong to the British tradition.

I find that there is much to lament in the state of modern England. We fought a grim war a quarter of a century ago for our survival and after the sacrifice of a million of our youth, this war we won. But we did not fully

(A talk by
VICTOR PURCELL
broadcast from
Singapore)

realise the responsibilities of our victory. We did not play the part we might have played in erecting a new international order. Other nations were indeed at fault but we fell back after too feeble a struggle on the old rough and ready idea of the balance of power. Nor did we recognise that the internal structure of England was full of timbers rotted by age and we were called upon by our sense of security, if nothing else, to rebuild our English social order. We relapsed too readily into the old game of party politics.

This was partly the result of our English tradition of compromise. We have always been opposed to violent change, and it has been our remarkable faculty to accept so much change as will avert revolution. This was our tolerance. But our tolerance, resistant at the same time to new ideas, has in some respects led us astray. We have been too much inclined to *laissez faire*. Thus we allowed the worst forces of the industrial revolution to range with little check over the fair face of England. I need refer only to the things that strike the eye. The slums of our great industrial cities do us no credit. Our tolerance of ribbon development—ugly tentacles of jerry-built hutches unfit for man—has placed the ancient beauty of our countryside in jeopardy; our reluctance to plan has deprived our towns of unity. Where once was an approach to architectural form is now a jumble of pseudostyles. We have been content to become citizens of mean cities.

These are the more obvious signs of decline since the Great War. But the decline had started long before then. We can trace it with the English defection from the arts. There was a time when England was a musical country; it had its folk ballads, its madrigals and dances on the village green. There was a time when an Englishman who claimed to be educated had to be able to sing a catch or play an air on his flute or guitar. Pepys, that very typical Englishman and civil servant used, we may remember, to play the flageolet on the leads of his house in the cool of the evening. England in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries had its schools of painting that were full of promise. There was a time when the Englishman did not despise literature and learning. If he canvassed his affections for the classics he would not be socially damned as "highbrow." It has been epigrammatically said that a battle was fought in the nineteenth century between the barbarians and the philistines. The philistines won. Be this as it may, it is true to say that in the age between the two great wars—except for a few freaks or poseurs—Englishmen accepted their music ready made from the trans-oceanic jazz factories, painting

was either a ramp or a dead art, and literature was snowed under by cartloads of murder or escapist trash.

I am sorry to harp on these unpopular subjects but to me they symbolise the worst side of England.

I may sound a little un-English in my critical approach to the English scene. But I think that for this very reason I am able to see the virtues of Englishman in plainer colours than the more typical Englishman with his ready acceptances and his innate modesty is able to do. Let me then presume.

I have travelled in many countries and have received much kindness and hospitality, but nowhere have I found a country where kindness and good manners are so much the fabric of the common nature as in England. London bus conductors and policemen, for instance, and railwaymen throughout the country, blunt and direct as they may be on rare occasions, seem to me as a class to be in the finest tradition of chivalry. They are, considering the trials of their calling, almost incredibly helpful and polite. Fools might call them servile, but I know better. You will find the same spirit throughout the length and breadth of England. You may enquire your way to Wiltshire from a yokel trimming a hedge, you may beg a tow for your becalmed sailing boat from a Yorkshire fisherman, you may knock at a cottage window when benighted on the Devonshire moors. Allowing for time and place, for the precaution of self-preservation, you will meet with the most astonishing kindness and helpfulness. Nor are these just specious qualities—they go deep down into the nature of the English people. It is easy to be charitable when you are wealthy, but among the poor of England you will find the pure generosity of sacrifice, of mutual help, and the silent and willing sharing of common suffering to a degree you would not have imagined possible. The greatest of the cardinal virtues is at home in England.

Then there is reliability. We may grumble and scheme, and even backbite—but we trust one another as a whole. The other day I read that a foreign air expert had prophesied that when the German Luftwaffe came down on England, the R.A.F. would crumple up. Of course they did not crumple up, but on what could this air expert have based such a strange prophecy? I cannot think. All I know is that during the dark days of May, June and after, I took stock quite calmly of every calamity that might befall England. But it never occurred to me—or to any other Englishman—that the R.A.F., the Army, the Navy, or the civilian population would "crumple up" even under the most terrific onslaughts. Was the omission to think of this possibility due to patriotism or blind faith? No, it was due to solid experience. I had the honour of commanding English troops in the last war and I know their mettle. They grouse and make cynical remarks about everything and everybody but they do not "crumple up." They do not swagger and swashbuckle and say what they are going to do to the enemy, and then when the time comes shout for their mothers. I have seen them in the Ypres Salient when the place was a sea of mud, every tree was shattered, and the so-called trenches ran through a channel house. I have seen them going over the top at dawn, I have seen them as prisoners of war in Germany, ragged and without food. I would trust them anywhere. As for the civilian population in this war, we have only to read our letters from home to see how they are "taking it." I have just received a cable from a seventy-seven year old father telling me to "keep my tail up." If he can keep "his tail up" in the midst of the bombing area, can I not keep mine up among the fleshpots of Singapore. I trust the English, and I say so because I know.

Then there is fairness of mind. Englishmen distrust new ideas;

they distrust foreign innovations. But they do try to be fair. I have often been surprised and amused to see Englishmen—middle-class Englishmen, that is, the kind that you meet in P. & O.'s—striving to consider with dispassion the ferocious views of some rebel or other who would dynamite the whole nation of them—or so he says. Amongst the citizens of almost any other nation such a rebel would have been thrown out of the door, or overboard, at the very least. But not with the English. They are almost inhumanly tolerant, both to their enemies and the interests that exploit them. But fairness of mind is not a virtue to be despised.

Tied up with these qualities is English humour. It is unique in the world. It is a compost of benevolence and sardonic realism. It is the lubricant that oils all life. It makes equal capital of the sacred and the profane. There is a philosophy tied up with it too of which at least one ingredient is humility. Examples of this humour are enshrined in our literature from Chaucer to W.W. Jacobs, and it is still vital amongst us. It helps us along. I remember in the trenches in 1916 asking a sergeant I had not seen for some time what he thought of the war. "They do say, sir," he replied, "that the first seven years is the worst." That is what I call sardonic realism.

These qualities stand out in high relief whenever I think of Englishmen, and though they constitute no inventory of the good that can be found in them, they may stand as symbols on which I build my patriotism.

Then there is the country itself; the product of the English spirit working on the gifts of a bountiful nature. I love the rich brown earth, I love the rolling uplands of ploughland or pasture and the fertile plains, I love the woods of comely trees carpeted with primroses, cowslips, and anemones, I love the moorland and the lakes. The music of English birds is to me beyond all other natural music: the smell of the earth, the hedgerow, the haystack, and the byre, renew the desire to live in me in all its fullness. An English cottage, deep gabled and of brick of opulent ancient red, surrounded with a garden of roses, pansies and stocks, of potatoes, onions, lettuce, mint, and sage is to me, as to many other Englishmen abroad, the setting for the ideal autumn of life. Can there be anything grander than the cathedrals of England with their high-arched dim interiors broken by variegated light and their aspiring towers and pinnacles, anything more comely and dignified than the eighteenth-century houses that grace our older city squares? And the weather of England? That is the weather that brings out all the sprigs of our character. Not only the caressing and serene, the boisterous and the bracing, but the wet and chilling, when icicles linger in the wagon ruts, and sleeping nature is seen as through a veil, is the weather that breathes life. The soil, the hills and valleys, the weather, the circumambient sea are the forces that have formed the nature of England, and from which her rich language, her tolerance, her humour, and her fairness have sprung.

From lament I have passed to rhapsody, and the two are not inconsistent. We are often most critical of the things we love.

It is England I have spoken of rather than Britain, partly because the word Britain for a denizen of these isles still sounds stilted, and partly because it is England I belong to and which I best know. But I would not have it understood that I ignore the virtues of Scotland, Ireland and Wales. As you will see, I hope, this love of mine for England is not at variance with the internationalism of which I have spoken—the willingness to accept the best where the best is to be found, the willingness to apply standards impartially, and the willingness to live in peace and understanding on a basis of equality with the other nations of the earth.

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Guardians of British Coast Doubled In Dover Area

PERFECT "INVASION WEATHER" OCCURRED IN THE STRAITS OF DOVER DURING CHRISTMAS, AND THE HEAVILY ARMED GUARDS WERE DOUBLED AGAINST THE POSSIBILITY OF A LIGHTNING GERMAN THRUST THROUGH THE BLANKET OF MIST COVERING THE CALM SEA.

Picked troops combed the beaches while the crews of long-range guns were ready for instant action and ships of the Dover Patrol slid through the mist keeping their day and night watch.

Meanwhile behind its ramparts Dover enjoyed a peaceful holiday. Shops were as crowded as in peacetime, a music hall and several cinemas were open and public dances continued until midnight.

Britain stood on guard against invasion throughout Christmas-tide.

While the unofficial air war "truce" was on, vigilance on the Channel coast was redoubled.

Workers Keep At It

Arms workers sacrificed their holiday to ensure a continued steady stream of munitions, and yesterday also war-factories were running at full speed and millions of factory workers and others in offices and public services were working for the first time on Boxing Day since the passing of the

NO CHANGE REPORTED IN LIBYA

A successful British raid east of Kassala, in which a number of casualties were inflicted on the enemy, was announced in a Cairo G.H.Q. communique yesterday.

No change is reported in Libya, and on other fronts there is nothing of importance to report.—Reuter.

Bank Holidays Act in 1871.—Reuter.

Nazi Threat Of "New Blow"

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

German quarters in Berlin yesterday strongly hinted that a new and more powerful blow than any yet struck would be dealt at Britain immediately after the "Christmas truce."

The Nazi authorities, claiming that Germany proposed a three-day Christmas armistice, said Germany notified Washington of the truce proposal and asked that it be relayed to London.

The Nazi proposal, it was stated, was that no Nazi planes would bomb Britain provided no R.A.F. craft attacked the Reich or German-occupied areas.

So far there has been no violation of the tacit truce on either side but the German authorities said swift retaliation would follow any R.A.F. raid.—International News Service.

FORMER EMPLOYEE SENTENCED

Before Mr. H. G. Sheldon, K.C. this morning, Taul Man-shing, 26, and Wu Chung, 26, carpenter, were charged with house-breaking at No. 480, King's Road, and with receiving 44 packets of piano "hammers" valued at \$880.

First accused was a former employee of the Tsang Tock Piano Company.

On December 10, 57 packets of piano hammers, valued at \$1,140, were stolen from the store-room at North Point. Following Police investigations, second accused was arrested with 44 packets of piano "hammers" in his possession. First accused was apprehended later.

SOCIETY GIRL WEDS BANDIT FREED AFTER SIX YEARS

Society beauty Miss Ethel Barrett, of St. Louis, has wed Edward G. Dillon, notorious robber, after waiting six years for his release from Sing Sing.

When Dillon passed through the prison gates, free at last, Miss Barrett stepped from her limousine and ran into his arms. Known as the Top Hat Robber, Dillon committed seventy-four hold-ups in fashionable Chicago homes and many thefts in exclusive New York night clubs and hotels.

When he was sentenced Miss Barrett publicly proclaimed her love for him. "As soon as he's freed I shall be his wife," she said.

Aged thirty-five, he has spent fourteen years in prisons.

THREAT OF COLD SHOWER

The fire brigade was called out last night to assist a police constable in arresting an alleged thief, who, after being threatened with a cold shower from one of the hoses, surrendered himself.

The man was alleged to have been one of the four robbers who dragged a woman to the rear of No. 190, Prince Edward Road and there stripped her of her belongings, valued at \$27.

The woman raised an alarm when the men decamped and the constable, patrolling nearby, rushed to the rescue, chasing the men in the direction of Shek Kip Mei Village.

One of the men jumped into the nullah between Prince Edward Road and Boundary Street, but was observed by a pursuing constable who stopped and ordered him to come out.

The man refused and the constable instructed spectators to summon the fire brigade, members of which, after threatening to turn the hose on him, compelled him to climb out and surrender.

COVENTRY'S X'MAS PRESENT TO QUEEN

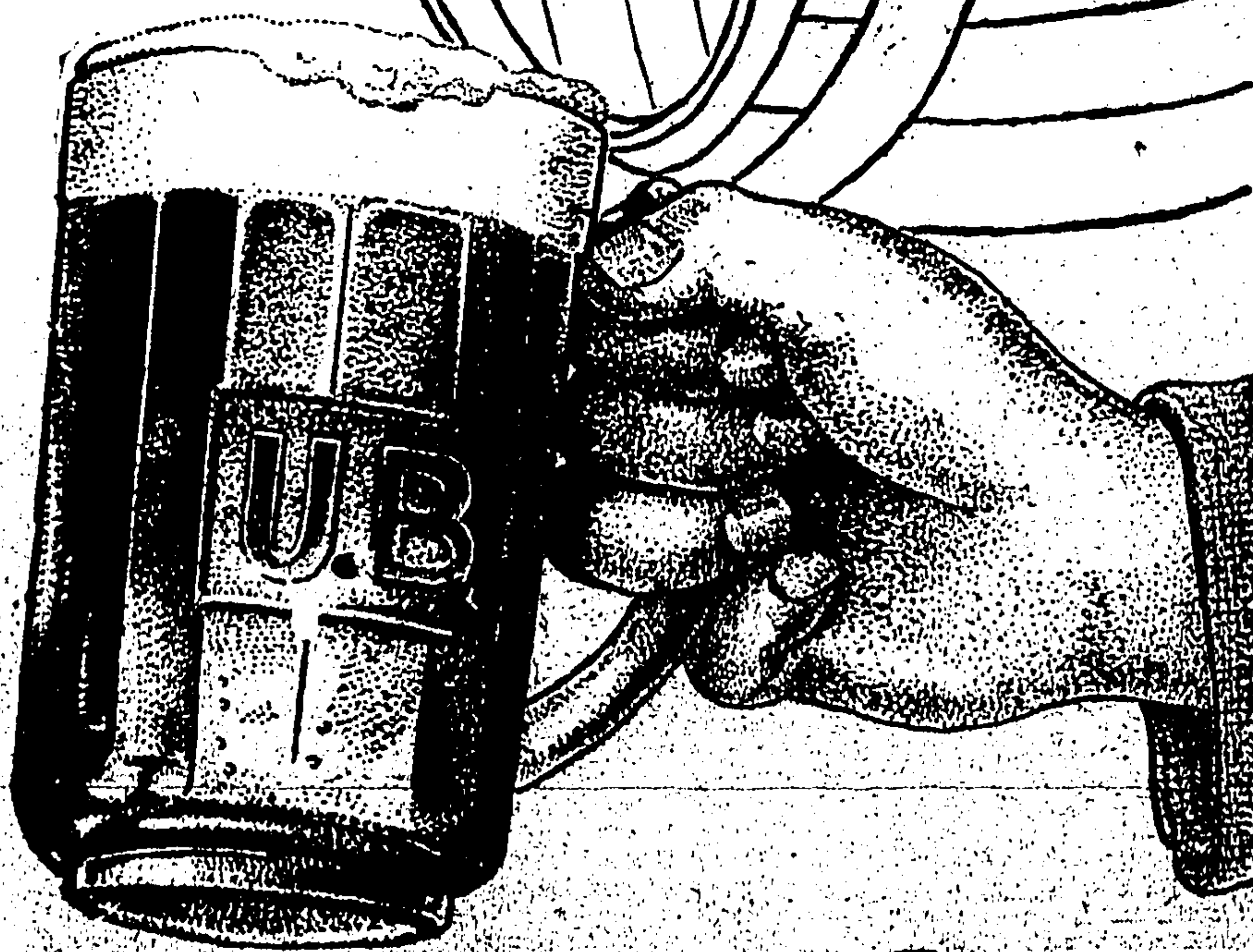
Among Christmas presents received by the Queen was a large basket of roses from Coventry residents in recognition of the practical sympathy shown by their Majesties since the city was bombed.—British Wireless.

SMALLPOX IN SHAI

Quarantine restrictions have been imposed against arrivals from Shanghai on account of smallpox.

U.B. BEER

LIGHT & DARK

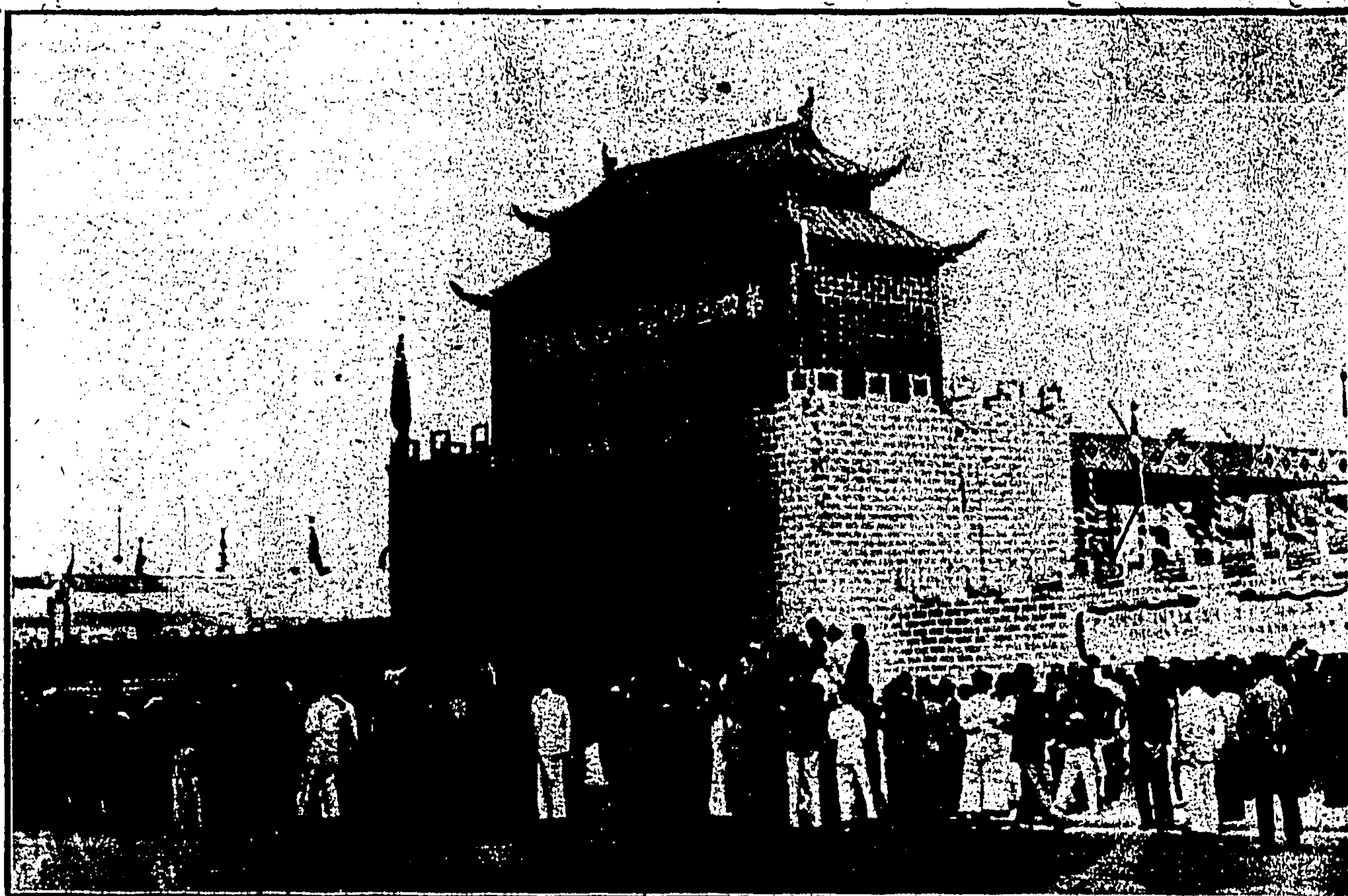


ON DRAUGHT

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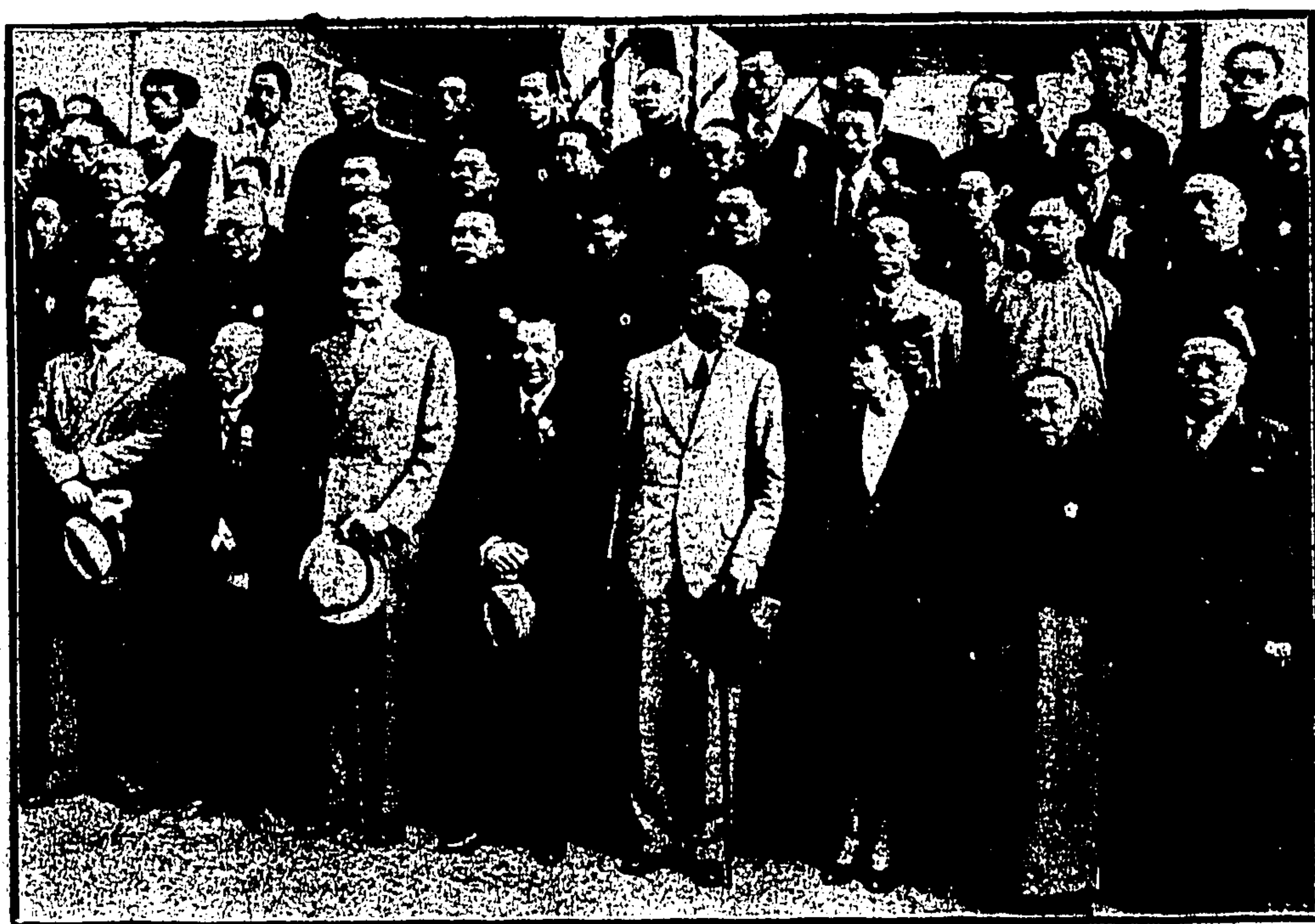
THE CHINA MAIL

FRIDAY SUPPLEMENT, HONG KONG, DECEMBER 27, 1940.



The striking entrance to the China Products Exhibition at Kowloon which has been drawing large crowds.

(At Left)—His Excellency the Acting Governor cutting the tape on opening day of the China Products Exhibition.



The official group photograph at the opening of the China Products Exhibition.



A living bridge formed by the Sai Ying-poon Boys Club at the University sports ground.



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SHORT STORY

TINNED MEAT By L. T. Hamilton

WING to the unfriendly activities of one of her powerful neighbours, the Government of the Republic of Neustria decided to send its ace investigator to the Embassy in London, where he would be listed as assistant military attaché.

This Intelligence agent was known to his comrades-in-arms as Captain Barra. He was dark of hair and sun-burnt of complexion, not above the average in height with a knack of passing in the crowd in spite of an individual cast of features. I should have put him down as a Basque, but he was English, from one of the home counties, in fact.

He had been wandering about Europe, a young man with an expensive education, no particular training, and very little money. By one of those chances of Fate, he had saved the Premier of Neustria from the bullets of a half-wit. That statesman, finding that Barra (as his name really was) was a good linguist and had had some military training both at school and in the Territorials, put him in the Neutrian Army for a start and then had him sent on confidential missions until the young man proved himself cool and reliable. Barra was then transferred to the General Staff, X Branch, and visited foreign countries with malice aforethought. He was also rough on rats, as many enemy agents discovered to their cost.

A likeable fellow when not on the prod was Barra. I was dining with him in Paris when he received the news of his appointment. "More trouble," he sighed, "and I was so happy here. Nothing to do except visit the Ministry for War. You know that the French and we work hand in hand, of course." I was Barra's only confident. There were certain reasons for this which would take too long to explain. I was annoyed when young Blakesley strolled over to our table, flanked by two cuties, one a dazzling blonde and the other a raven black.

He had been imbibing, but was not blotto. "Hello, you two. Why! Barra! I have not seen you for donkeys' years. I'm throwing a party and you are in it. The bubbly is on me." He spoke to the pretties in French and they turned out to be Ysolde de Something or the other and Liane de Quelque Chose. These were their war-names, let it be understood. In reality they were not patricians, but they were very attractive girls.

Barra said: "All right, I'm free until to-morrow evening, so if you want to make it a 24-hour sitting lead me to it." "It's a go," shouted Blakesley. "We will do all the joints. Glad I met you. Where do we go from here?"

That started it. Paris is regaining its pre-war night life and there are scores of cabarets and night clubs which only get lively at midnight.

Blakesley confided to us that he had made a big coup. He had landed an enormous contract for his firm and had been paid part of his commission in advance. He was also to receive a handsome bonus for introducing new business to his firm, an internationally known firm of wholesale provision merchants who dealt in government contracts, among other things.

Barra grew more and more bored as Blakesley told us how he had met an aristocratic old gentleman on the way back from Buenos Ayres who had turned out to be a big noise in the Valdianian Government. Now Valdania was the powerful and unfriendly neighbour of Neustria, and I grew interested, but not Barra, who applied himself to the wine and to whispering naughty nothings to Ysolde and Liane in turn.

The old gentleman had a mania for the old-fashioned card game of pinochle, bezique as we call it in England. He liked to gamble on it. Now Blakesley had learnt the game from a wealthy malden aunt, and he sat in as the old gentleman's partner at a game called Auction Bezique, which is really a very skilful and interesting form of gambling.

The o.g. was delighted with him and one evening asked him what he did for a living. The young man said: "I'm a speculator."

Englishman told him and the o.g. rattling his winnings in his pocket, or, to be more correct, rustling the notes, said: "I'll put some business your way. See me in the main library at ten a.m."

Blakesley was there with bells on, as he phrased it, and received an order for tinned meat that took his breath away. He had to wireless both London and Buenos Ayres before he could accept it. "We are chartering special steamships. It's the biggest order the firm's ever had and the first from Valdania."

"Money all right?" I asked rather cynically, but then some governments do not like paying cash.

"Okie Dokie," answered our host. "Twenty per cent in advance and the rest to be paid, part on shipment, part on delivery. Boys, you see before you a rising young business man. The firm has put my salary up, quadrupled it, and my commission alone from this deal will give me capital enough to retire on if I wanted. Also, they have put my commission up for further deals. Yoicks, boys, yoicks."

Barra made an excuse: "I've got to slip out for a few minutes. I'll be back without fail. This drinking is just getting interesting."

The girls had to be reassured that he was returning and when they had been pacified and Barra had left us, Blakesley turned to me and said: "Not a word of this, mind you. I know it would make a good newspaper story, but I'll hand you something big when I get permission from London."

We had been talking in English, and it was pretty certain that neither of the girls had the faintest suspicion of what Blakesley had told us. They knew a little English, just enough to make a casual visitor buy them a bottle of champagne and other trifles. Blakesley only knew Barra as a foreigner who spoke good English, like many other Continental officers who have been partly educated in Britain or had English tutors at home.

He had no knowledge of Barra's connection with any form of secret service. In fact, my friend from Neustria was supposed to be in Paris to attend courses at the Senior School of War.

Our friend returned and applied himself to the wine and eventually proved himself to be the life and soul of the party. He had the girls in fits. Blakesley, who speaks French very well, was laughing till the tears rolled down his face, and others joined us. Prince Sabine, the handsome ex-Cossack leader; Vera, his wife, who earned the family living by singing at the Pink Dog; Rowland, of the Transatlantic Press Syndicate; Lawrence of the London Briton; De Vasseur, that most charming of boulevardiers, and one of the cleverest all-round men I have ever met.

It was Vasseur who insisted we should be his guests at the new Miramar, in which he had a large interest. This place, which only opened at midnight, was decorated in Mexican style, the waiters wore vacueta clothes of black velvet decorated with silver, and the cigarette and chocolate girls were decked out as Mexican belles on a balie day.

It was a new fashion which had caught the fickle fancy of the Parisian rich Bohemia, and seats were difficult to obtain in the supper-room. Prices were exorbitant. In the usual course of events I would not have dared set foot in the show, even allowing for the fact that the French franc is 179 to the £ and I drew my earnings from England and so won on the exchange.

Vasseur had visited Mexico, where his family had vast financial interests, in order to bring back some senoritas who could certainly dance. He had designed their costumes himself, improving on the local cut and colour, and the way they performed the Habanera was enough to provoke St. Anthony himself.

Vasseur was always generous and always tactful. He knew that the Sabrines were poor, so he asked Vera in a low tone to give us a song, which she did, a weird

Russian battle-song in which you could hear the hooves of the cavalry hordes charging across the plain, the clash of steel, the bitter sorrow that comes after battle. When she came down from the little stage reserved for vocalists and soloists, the crowd went mad. She had "got across," as stage folk say. Vasseur kissed her on the cheeks, then turned to her husband and asked his permission; that was the Frenchman's way. "Vera, my charming, you must leave that canine resort, the Pink Dog. You must come here. Excuse me talking business, but there is no time like the present. I will have the manager draw up a contract, which you will sign before you dare to leave." Then in a low voice which I could not help overhearing, he mentioned a figure that left the handsome Russian gaping. Tears filled her eyes.

"But it means comfort, freedom from worry, oh, many things I cannot express." "Then do not try, Madame la Princesse," replied Vasseur, with a courteous inclination of the head.

We finished that party at ten in the morning. At two in the afternoon I was roused by Barra, spick-and-span in Bond-street tweeds, clear-eyed and alert.

"You must have a head like a rhinoceros or a hippopotamus, or both of them," I grumbled. "Rise and shine," he ordered me. "I have a job of work for you. Get leave of absence from the rag in which you perpetrate your inanities and do what I tell you, and you will have plenty of tobacco in your old tobacco box."

I was due for a spot of holiday anyhow, and London was quite agreeable to my leaving my French assistant in charge of our Paris Office.

"Come with me to London," said Barra after I had eaten, with some difficulty, a species of late lunch.

We took the afternoon plane to Croydon, and I motored with Barra to the Embassy. "Wait here," said my friend, "I must see his Excellency and procure funds and papers."

He kept me waiting an hour and a half, then came out grinning. "All set, we leave for Hamburg as soon as possible. I want to pick up some technical gear there. Here is your passport, you are temporarily a citizen of Neustria. Your name is Martin and you are a Professor of History of the Central University travelling to enlarge your mind. I am a certain Volche, a research chemist, from the University staff, travelling for more technical reasons. We are both poor and honest, but not too poor and not too honest. Do you get me?"

"Yes, I suppose so," I murmured doubtfully.

In Hamburg Barra put me to drinking with a burly, black-bearded deep sea skipper, a Dutchman, with a marvellous capacity for rum and schnapps. He had a very high opinion of Barra, but of few other people.

My friend appeared the night the Dutchman was sailing for La Plata. He ordered a heavy package to be delivered on the skipper's steamship, and then informed me that we were sailing with the Dutchman, nominally as members of the crew, but in reality as passengers. "But what about the paper?" I gasped.

"Oh, that is all arranged. I telephoned your editor, whom I met last year, and he says that if you come back alive your job will be still open to you, but that if you get into trouble you can be hanged, shot or merely drowned as far as he cares."

"That's consoling."

We anchored off a wharf some way from Buenos Ayres and, after a case of seven-pound tins of what Tommy Atkins calls bully beef were loaded in the hold. There were several obvious Valdianians attached to the crew, undoubtedly as guards, but they were busily plied with rum and so did not do much in the way of guard duties. I hardly saw Barra during this period. He was busy all night together with a ruffianly crew who certainly were not the stevedores who had been loading the cargo. Although dirty, unshaven and rough, they were of a higher type.

I was with Barra, however,

when he wined the crowd of them in a posada the night before we sailed. He paid out good money to them and left the chief ruffian a number of demijohns of some liquid, instructing him not to allow any of the band to drink it.

"We jumped ship" at Port Said on the return journey. Already there was a rather nauseating odour pervading the ship, which was otherwise as clean a vessel as I have seen of its kind. It surprised me that the Dutch skipper paid no attention to this odour and, when I mentioned it, merely winked and said it was my imagination and the fumes of rum mixed. So thereafter, I held my tongue. I guessed rightly enough that Barra had been up to some villainy.

I reported back to Fleet Street, bronzed and fit as a fiddle, also with a comfortable sum of money in my possession which Barra had paid me for what he was pleased to call "my moral assistance." He said that I made a perfect Professor of History; in fact, he would advise the Neutrian Government to give me a Chair in the subject.

The managing editor received me somewhat in the manner the governor of a Borstal institution must welcome a runaway. "Do you see this?" he barked, and threw me over a message from our man at Peltara, the capital of Valdania.

"Grave scandal of War Office Contracts. Reserve supplies of tinned meat found to be putrid. The War Office has recently purchased from a firm of international repute a vast consignment of Argentine tinned meat. The supplies were examined before shipping and were, apparently, in good condition on arrival. An issue was made to troops on manoeuvres along the Neutrian frontier and the meat was found to be rotten. It had seemingly been contaminated by some erosive chemical."

"I think you had better go back to Paris and say nothing about your expedition to South America," said the Chief. "We cannot have our correspondent mixed up in such matters." Then he smiled: "You damned saboteur, I knew that young Barra would be up to some monkey trick or the other. Anyway, you have probably averted a war. The Valdianians were all armed and raring to go, but they have no meat unless they slay cattle, and they would have to buy from Russia if they want to make trouble before Winter sets in. Get out of my sight and for goodness sake send me some news. None of your cabaret dope." So I departed for Paris, leaving Barra at the Embassy where I had dined with his Excellency the Neutrian ambassador to the Court of St. James', who gave me a capital news-story as a sort of bonus for my efforts.

Both the second and third consignments of meat of the Valdian Army were found to be contaminated. Unfortunately, the government, anxious to prove its good faith and to stand in well with the British interests, had paid the bill; now they were suing

to recover at least part of the amount.

I was heartily thankful to learn that young Blakesley was in Athens. I did not wish to meet him for some little while. Then Barra popped over and told me to release a sensational yarn about secret agents deliberately damaging the meat cargoes with a new corrosive acid of intense strength that had been invented by a German chemist. He even gave me the name and formula of the acid. "You can say it was that notorious free-lance spy, Captain da Souza, who operated," he told me. "It is always safe to blame anything on Da Souza. He doesn't care. It is a good advertisement for him in a way."

So I spread myself and the story was front-paged and the Chief congratulated me warmly in an official letter and called me something appalling on the telephone. "Ananias would be ashamed to look you in the face, you double-decked robber," he barked, "but it was a good story."

A day or two later I was visited by the fair Ysolde and the dark Liane, who opened on me in perfect English. "Mr. Blakesley talks a little too much, don't you think so, Mr. Carroll?" said the first. "I'm glad that Captain Barra sent his wire from the all-night post-office at the Bourse," said Liane. Then they both put out their pretty pink hands, "Money, please, m'sieu," they chorused.

"Er, what the devil do you mean, holding me up in my office?" They laughed joyfully, and Liane said: "Oh, M'sieu Carroll, you will be calling us gold-diggers next. Don't you know Captain Barra employed us to, what do you call it, let me see, oh, to contact M'sieu Blakesley?"

"The damned scoundrel," I ejaculated virtuously.

Again they laughed and this time it was Ysolde who spoke. "You made your little share, did you not, M'sieu Carroll? Well, we want ours. We know the money is safe, but we made la bombe last night and now we are on the rocks, dry, busted."

"You speak very good English."

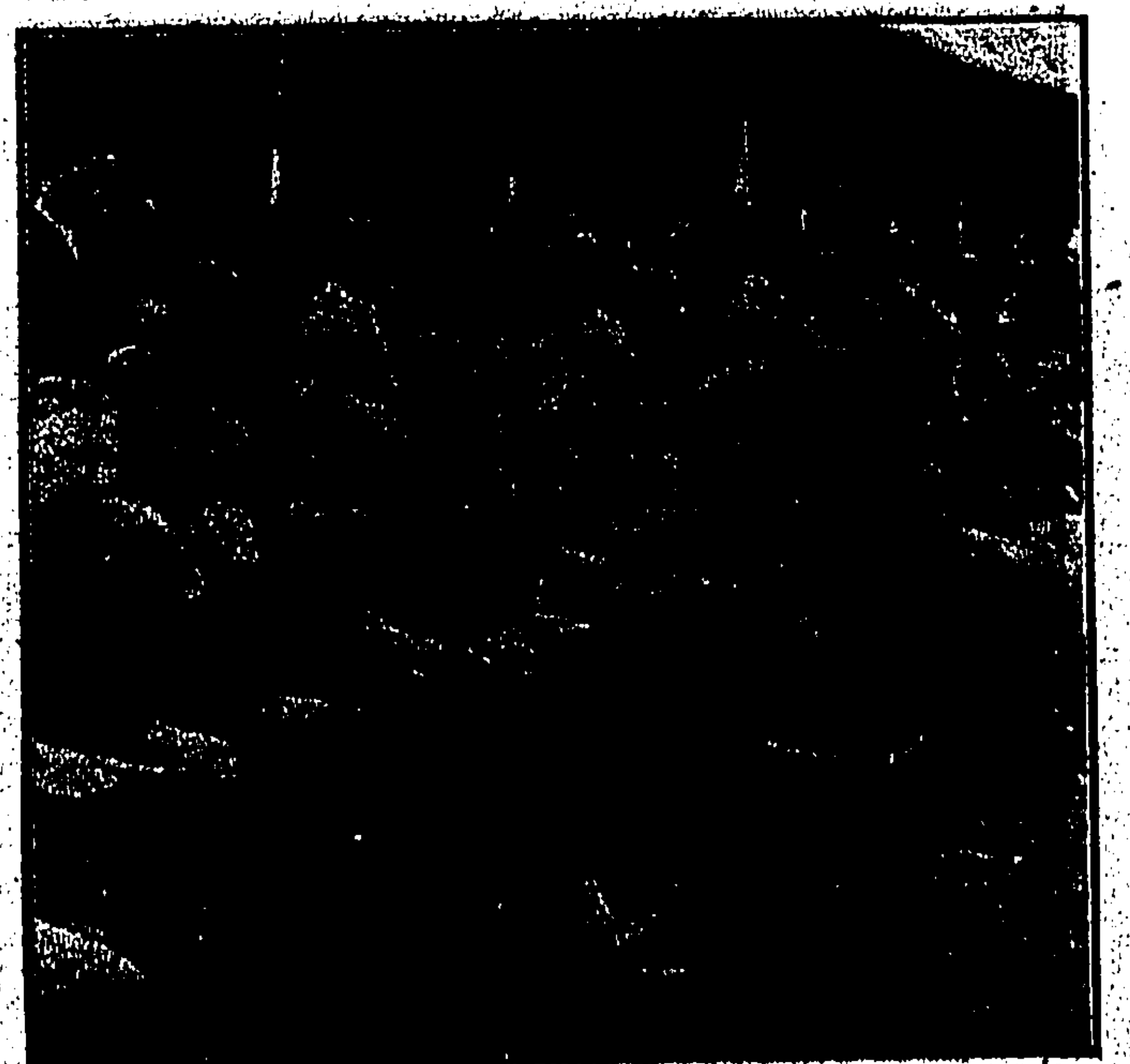
They both curtsied in mockery. "Thank you, kind sir."

"I nearly fainted when Ysolde, altering her voice, announced, 'I come from Brum,' and Liane, her eyes sparkling, told me that she was born in that pretty little village at the foot of the Surrey hills, namely, Peckham, which is Postal District S.E.15 of London Town."

"Let's go and have a drink," I suggested. "One of the things we came here for," they chorused.

I put a call through to Barra who instructed me to inform the fair damsels to go to Van Reyn, the Dutch private banker, who would pay them over certain moneys.

When I gave them the good news they both kissed me rapturously and Liane dated me up. Ysolde publicly announced her intention of laying her snares for Barra, and chanted, "Oh, mama, go get that man for me," but she'll have a hard journey. He's a hard nut is Captain Barra.



Guests and judges at the physical training display at the Hong Kong Football Club ground.

Briton, The Poor Fool!

"It's a year ago to-day," said Mrs. Steady, looking up at her sister-in-law from a study of her diary pages, "that we drove into Grayminster to buy those black-out curtains."

"All the soldiers on the roads, and the traffic lights down to almost nothing . . .!" said Geraldine Steady. "It might be a hundred years!"

"It was the next night," said Mrs. Steady, "that I did my first spell of Air Raid Precautions duty. The day after that the first evacuee children came from Wightport, and you decided to stay with me. Smalltown hasn't been the peaceful refuge I promised you, Geraldine!"

"I feel like Nelson," said Miss Steady, defiantly. "Do you remember that saying of his at one of the big battles? 'I would not be elsewhere for thousands!'"

"There are so many things one's forgotten," went on Mrs. Steady, turning the pages of her book. "Got battery for electric torch at last." The worst battery famine was in November. Then about the cold . . .! Wasn't that dreadful winter like the vigil before the accolade of knighthood? How our fighting airmen are winning their spurs! Heard that Nazis had invaded Holland before breakfast from the chimney sweep . . ."

"I hope they got no breakfast," murmured Geraldine, "but I expect they did!"

"David's leave over." I wonder . . .?

David Steady was one of those fighting airmen. It was a pity for his Mother to wonder too much about him.

"I hope you put down the little things," said Miss Steady. "Private diaries are history. The first time we saw the balloons over Wightport . . . the first air raid warning . . . doesn't that seem years ago? The first time we were woken up by gunfire . . . the first camouflaged car . . . the first camouflaged house on the Terrace . . . the first time someone said 'I'll come if there isn't a raid on.'"

"There were other first times, too," said Mrs. Steady, dreamily. "The first time I realised that this isn't just a fight between ourselves and our Allies, and the Germans; that if we were beaten it would be the end of all decent existence. I was frightened when I saw that first, though I didn't let you know it. How could nice,

casual creatures, like David and the other boys, girls like my Molly and Joan, in their hospitals and ambulances, have such responsibility? Then came Dunkirk . . . and the French collapse; and we knew we'd got to win the war by ourselves somehow, and it seemed to get easier."

"What you mean," said Miss Steady, "is that there's a tonic in personal danger. That's why people ride the Grand National and shoot rapids and so on, I suppose. We're all getting that tonic, and personal responsibility, too. It's doing us a world of good!"

Smalltown, with the other towns and villages of Southshire, and

By
Kathleen
Conyngham
Greene, O.B.E.

of Eastshire and Northeastshire, is proud of being in the front line of the Battle of Britain.

There is little that the High Command of the Royal Air Force could tell us about air fighting that we do not feel we know . . . in some respects better than they

do! A distinguished Air Marshal has said that he cannot be sure of the sound of a German bomber. There isn't a Smalltown man or woman who will not nod wisely towards a particular sort of overhead droning.

"That's a German . . .!" And then, to a sound of a different timbre—
"That's the Hurricanes after him!"

The Briton, poor fool, his enemies say, will never agree that he's beaten. He—and she—won't even agree to be frightened! When planes are swooping, and machine-gunfire is rattling over the roofs of Smalltown, old Mrs. Stiff

has to be, almost forcibly, propelled into the house by her family.

"I've got so blind," says Mrs. Stiff, "that I can't see them properly unless they fly really low." Mr. Bunn, the baker, had the front of his shop sliced off by a bomb one night. The very next day there was a big poster nailed up on the one wall left standing:—

"Who cares for Hitler? Bread and cakes as usual."

When "all day long the noise of battle rolls," Smalltown housewives pick up their baskets and run out, between raids, to do their shopping.

Even the dogs seem to be imbued with the same courage. Mrs. Steady's golden cocker spaniel, who hides under the table at the pop of a Guy Fawkes Day cracker, does not lift his head from his basket at the sound of far louder bangs.

"Private diaries are history," said Mrs. Steady, meditatively, looking down at her book. "If any grandchildren of mine should read what I've written, they may think it's terribly trivial. Of course I've written about the war. Here's last Friday—Bombs in Chestnut Street. Three small houses wrecked. Took coat and shoes to Mrs. Chatter whose clothes were buried. But then I've said, G. and I to bridge club."

"On Saturday I've written 'much fighting all day over the town. Watched great air battle above Wightport in boxroom. Balloon hit. Saw Nazi bombers falling. The grandchildren might think that was interesting."

"But what about 'Cinema in evening'? Of course it was that war film about the lighthouse men, and there wasn't an air raid warning till we got home. I shouldn't like anyone who reads the diary to feel we were dreadful people, playing bridge and going to the cinema, while we were fighting for civilisation!"

"Don't you worry!" said Geraldine. "The Germans are telling their own people now that all this part of England is a heap of smoking ruins. If you and I are alive at all we ought to be gibbering with terror underground! As we are alive, and living normal, cheerful lives in a comfortable house, why shouldn't your future grandchildren, and the historians of the future, be able to read the truth?"

Mussolini's Dream

by
Basil Matthews

The name of Graziani, Mussolini's Governor General of the Italian North African colony of Libya, brings curses to the lips of every Arab, whether he is in his tent in the Syrian desert or sipping coffee in the bazaars of Tunis or Algiers.

The Arabs everywhere feel undying hate for the man who, to crush their resistance to his tyranny in Libya, took sheikhs of noble birth into the air and threw them from aeroplanes to crash to death among their tribal followers, and who beat others to death.

He, too, it was who—forcibly transporting Libyan Arab tribes by the hundred thousand to desert areas, destroyed their flocks and herds—reducing their camels from 75,000 to 2,600, their sheep from 800,000 to 98,000 and their horses from 14,000 to 1,000.

Graziani succeeded as Governor Italo Balbo, whose mysterious death in an air-crash cast suspicion on Graziani.

Balbo's Colony

Balbo was a very different type from Graziani, and would have done much more to give Italy a real Empire, based on sound methods of development. Mussolini sent him to Libya in order to put him into the background; for Balbo's exploits in the air had made him the adored hero of the Italian people and a potential rival to the Duce.

Balbo didn't accept his governorship of Libya as exile. He set to work to improve flocks and herds, and he also carried through

a great mass-colonisation scheme. In 1938 he transported twenty thousand Italian peasants on sixteen steamships from Italy to Libya and settled them all within twenty-four hours in eighteen hundred farm houses—all exactly identical with one another, on farms provided not only in seed and animal stock, but also in

water for irrigation from artesian wells sunk fifteen hundred feet beneath the Libyan sand.

Balbo thus began to create, behind the narrow fringe of fertility on the thousand mile coast line of Libya, a new Italy in Africa. His death ended his work, and Graziani began the other sort of Empire-building—the sort that Mussolini prefers—a brutal tyranny.

The Population Problem

But Mussolini still values the mass-colonisation idea. His first motive for this is to find space for Italy's swiftly growing population. Her increase is at the rate of 400,000 a year. Mussolini, by financial and other inducements, incites the Italian people to have more babies, and at the same time, utters curses because there is inadequate room for them on Italian soil.

The Libyan colonisation is a step towards the answer, but it is only a small step.

The second driving force behind Mussolini's Imperialism is the Fascist passion for a self-sufficient Italy, or to use the word invented by the Dictators an "autarky". The menace of economic sanctions, held over the head of Italy during the Abyssinian crisis, wounded Fascist pride. Italy now plans that Libya shall be a farm of the Roman Empire which, with Abyssinia, would theoretically go some way towards making her independent of imports.

The third motive for colonising Libya is that of strategic security.

Obviously if some hundred thousand sturdy and prolific peasants, owning their own farms in Libya and, therefore, keen on defending that territory, are living on the soil of Africa immediately opposite to Sicily and the toe of Italy, Italy's strategic position in the Mediterranean is much stronger.

The Mantle Of Caesar

The fourth driving force in the Italian adventure of colonisation in North Africa is tied up with all the others.

It is the motive that appeals so much to the imagination of Mussolini, who sleeps every night with the famous book "The Mantle of Caesar" by his bedside; it is the motive of prestige, the passionate desire to make the Mediterranean the lake of a new Roman Empire whose frontiers might even go down to the marches of India.

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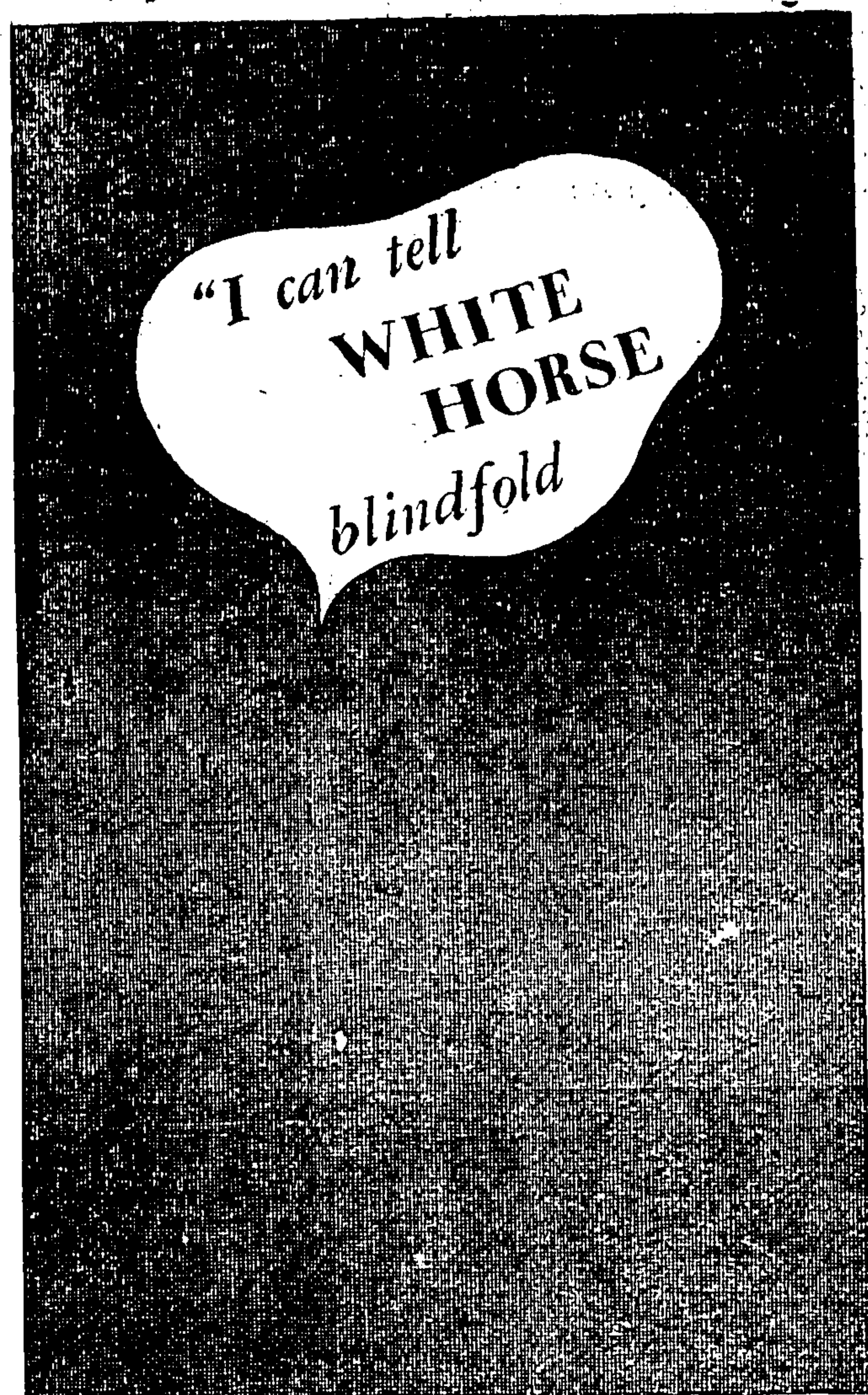
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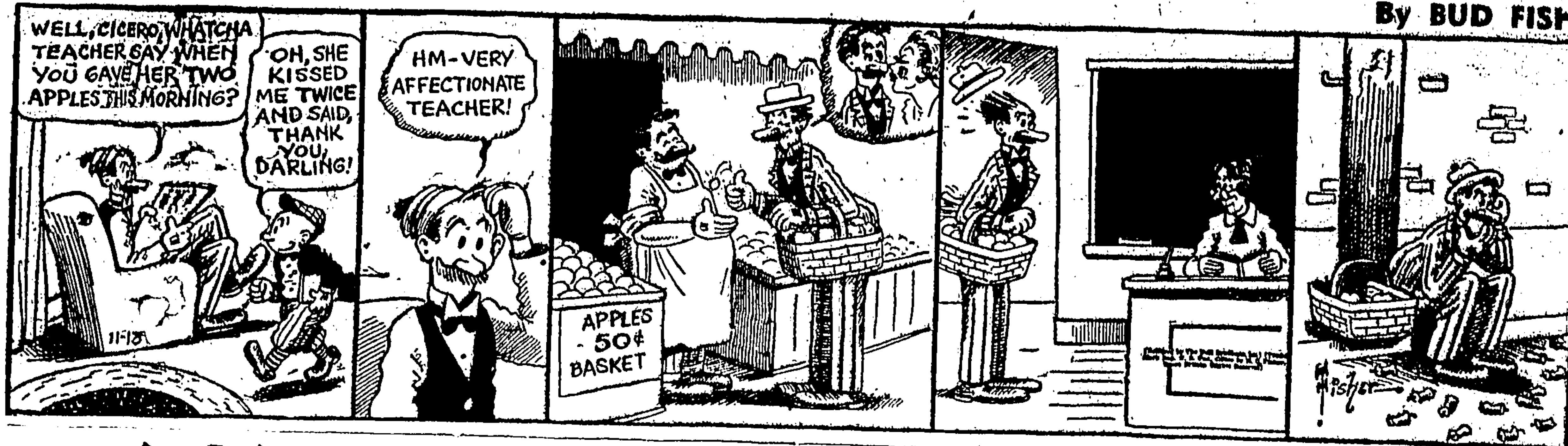
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MUTT AND JEFF

By BUD FISHER

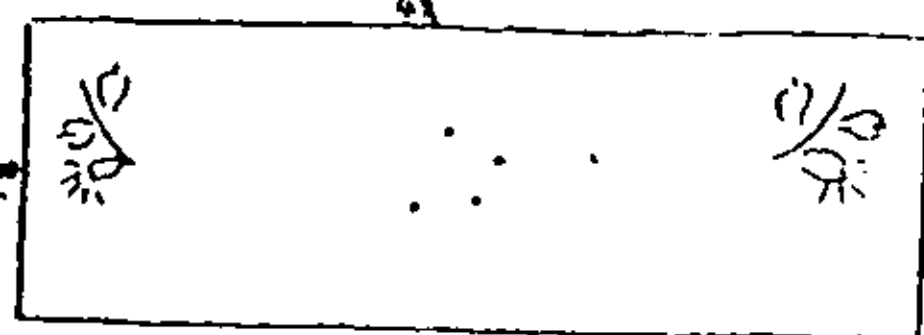
A PAGE FOR WOMEN
GOOD TWO SHOW

THESE bedroom slippers are ideal for holiday travelling, since they take up so little room in the suitcase. They are quickly made, too, with the help of the diagrams, which can easily be traced from the sizes given.

The design is a simple one, for which a transfer is unnecessary. You will also need a pair of slipper soles, in your own size, and a nine-inch square of coloured felt.

The model slippers were carried out in soft blue, embroidered with candy pink, green, white, bright blue, and purple; but, of course, you'll choose a felt and wools to harmonise with your dressing gown.

Now, with the diagrams before you, cut two pieces of felt, like the bigger sketch, for the two toe-pieces; then cut two smaller pieces for the heels. Draw the simple design shown on the diagram on to a sheet of transparent paper, then



Heel

transfer this to each toe-piece, by placing a piece of carbon paper under the tracing, with the shiny side facing the felt, and go over the outlines with a sharp point.

Very bright and gay are the toe-pieces with their sprays of bright flowers. The heel-pieces are embroidered, too.



Toepiece 8"

The diagram shows the design for the right toe-piece; reverse it for the left piece.

The flowers are done in stroke-stitch, one in white, one in pink, and one in blue; there are tiny single stitches in contrasting colours between each pair of stroke-stitch petals, cherry for the

white, purple for the blue, blue for the pink. Every flower has a black or yellow cross-stitch centre; the stalks are green stem-stitch, the bigger leaves are done in fish-bone-stitch, the smaller ones are daisy-loops. Stroke-stitch buds complete the embroidery. The heel-pieces have a tiny

spray on each side, and they're done in green and pink. Blanket-stitch round each piece of felt with green wool, then sew the heel-pieces to the heel part of each slipper-sole, and the toe-pieces to the front part, using green wool for this, so that the stitches blend with the blanket-stitching and will not show. Lastly crochet two cords from the green wool, making them about 30 inches long; sew one along the top edge of each heel-piece, and tie the remainder round the ankle, with a bow over the instep.

If the toe-pieces don't fit your foot it would be quite easy to make them longer or shorter accordingly. Cut the shape in paper first of all, and try it against your foot, so as to make sure of not spoiling the felt by cutting it wrongly.

FRUIT PUNCHES AND FRUIT CUPS TO TEMPT YOU...

INSTEAD of adding sugar to the fruit cup, make a syrup of four cups sugar boiled for five minutes in two cups water after dissolving. This syrup can be bottled for future use. Bottled grape and grapefruit juice can be obtained when the fruit is not in season.

Barley-Water

Wash barley very well, taking care to remove all the starch. It is a good idea to rub it well with the hands in the water in which it is washed. Allow 1 tablespoon barley to each quart boiling water and boil rapidly for 20 minutes, adding a few slices of lemon during the boiling. Allow to cool, add fruit juices and sugar to taste.

Fruit Punch

Make some China tea and measure 1 pint. Strain into a basin into which you have measured ½ lb. sugar, stir until sugar is dissolved. Allow it to become cold. Place a block of ice in punch bowl and strain over the tea 1 pint orange juice and ½ pint lemon juice. Add 4 tablespoons maraschino, 2 pints ginger ale, 2 pints soda-water and 1 pint lemonade. Decorate punch bowl

with thin slices of orange and fresh sprigs of mint.

Orange Milk Shake

Mix together 3 cups orange juice, 2 cups grapefruit juice, 1 cup water in which ¼ cup castor sugar has been dissolved, a pinch salt, and, if liked, a few drops almond essence. Lastly add 1½ cups evaporated milk and 2 cups ice, broken into very small pieces. Place into a large jar and mix well. This is a delicious drink.

Ginger Punch

Boil for 20 minutes 1 quart water, 1 cup sugar, and ½ cup ginger syrup. Allow to become quite cold, then add the following: One cup orange juice, ½ cup lemon juice, ½ cup finely-chopped preserved ginger (optional), 1 bottle lemonade, and 2 pints soda-water.

Claret Punch

Place ½ packet raisins in a saucepan with 1 quart water and boil for 20 minutes. Remove raisins and add 2 cups sugar, the thinly-peeled rind of 1 lemon, and about 4 inch stick cinnamon. (Do not use ground cinnamon.) Boil for another 5 or 6 minutes. Cool a

little, then add 2 cups orange juice, ½ cup lemon juice, and ½ cup grapefruit juice. Cool thoroughly, then strain over ice with 1 pint bottle claret.

Grape-Juice Punch

To each bottle grape juice add 4 tablespoons sugar, half cup lime juice, one pint bottle lemonade, and two pints soda-water. Serve thoroughly cold.

Pineapple Cup

Mix together 4 cups cold strained tea, the juice of 6 oranges and 6 lemons. Boil together 1 medium grated pineapple, 4 level cups sugar, 8 cups water for 20 minutes. Allow to cool, then add fruit juices, tea, etc. Decorate with slices of fruit.

Fruit Cup

Mix together 2 pints elder, the juice of 2 lemons, 2 oranges, and 2 cups pineapple juice. Stir in 2 pints grape juice and 1 cup sugar, allow to stand for about 1 hour. Now add 3 or 4 sliced oranges, 1 sliced apple, 2 or 3 slices lemon, a sliced banana, a few maraschino cherries or strawberries, and 2 of 3 passionfruit. Add a piece of ice and serve cold.

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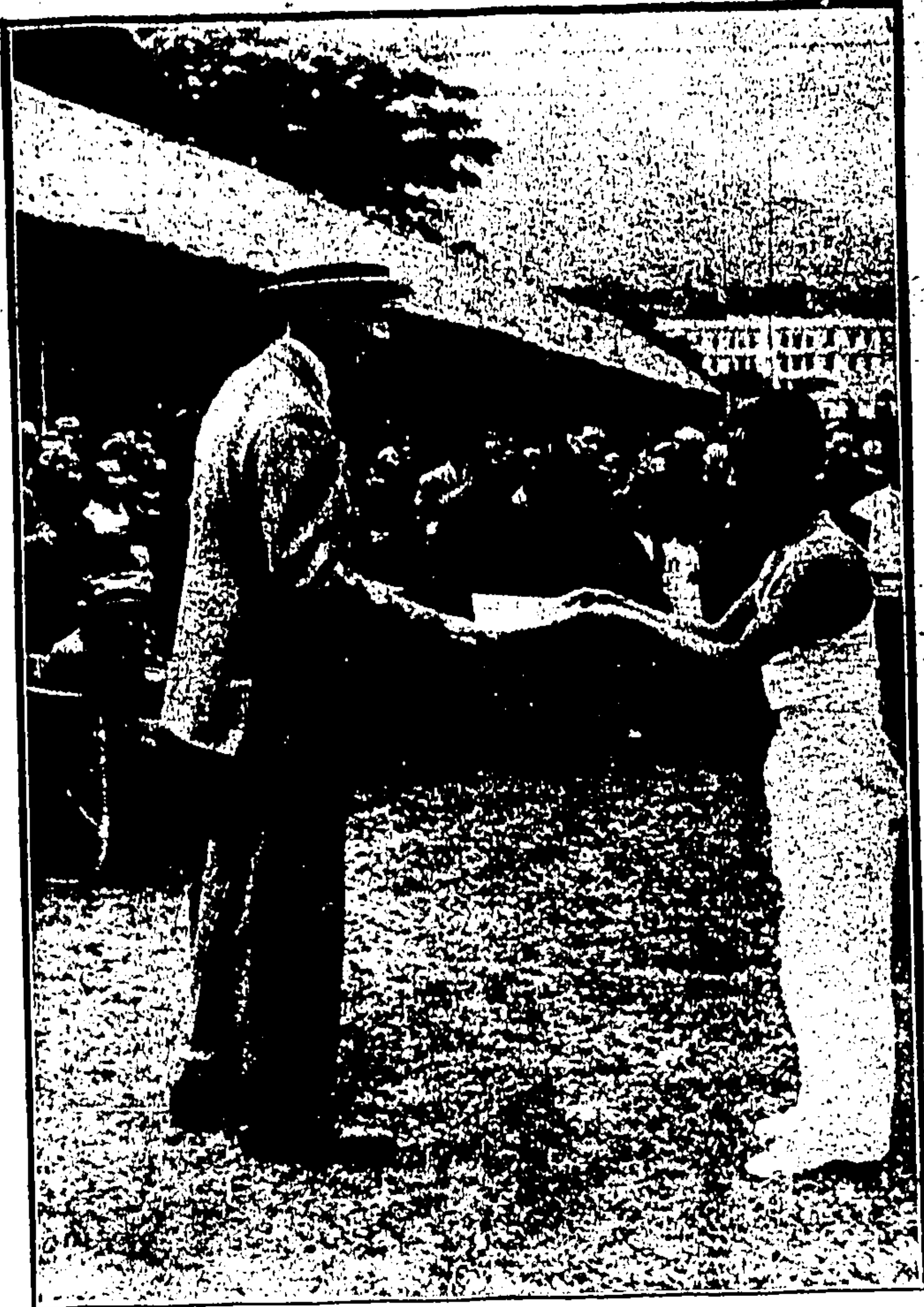
Cutex Oily Polish Remover contains no acetone. It safely removes polish and will not cause brittle nails.

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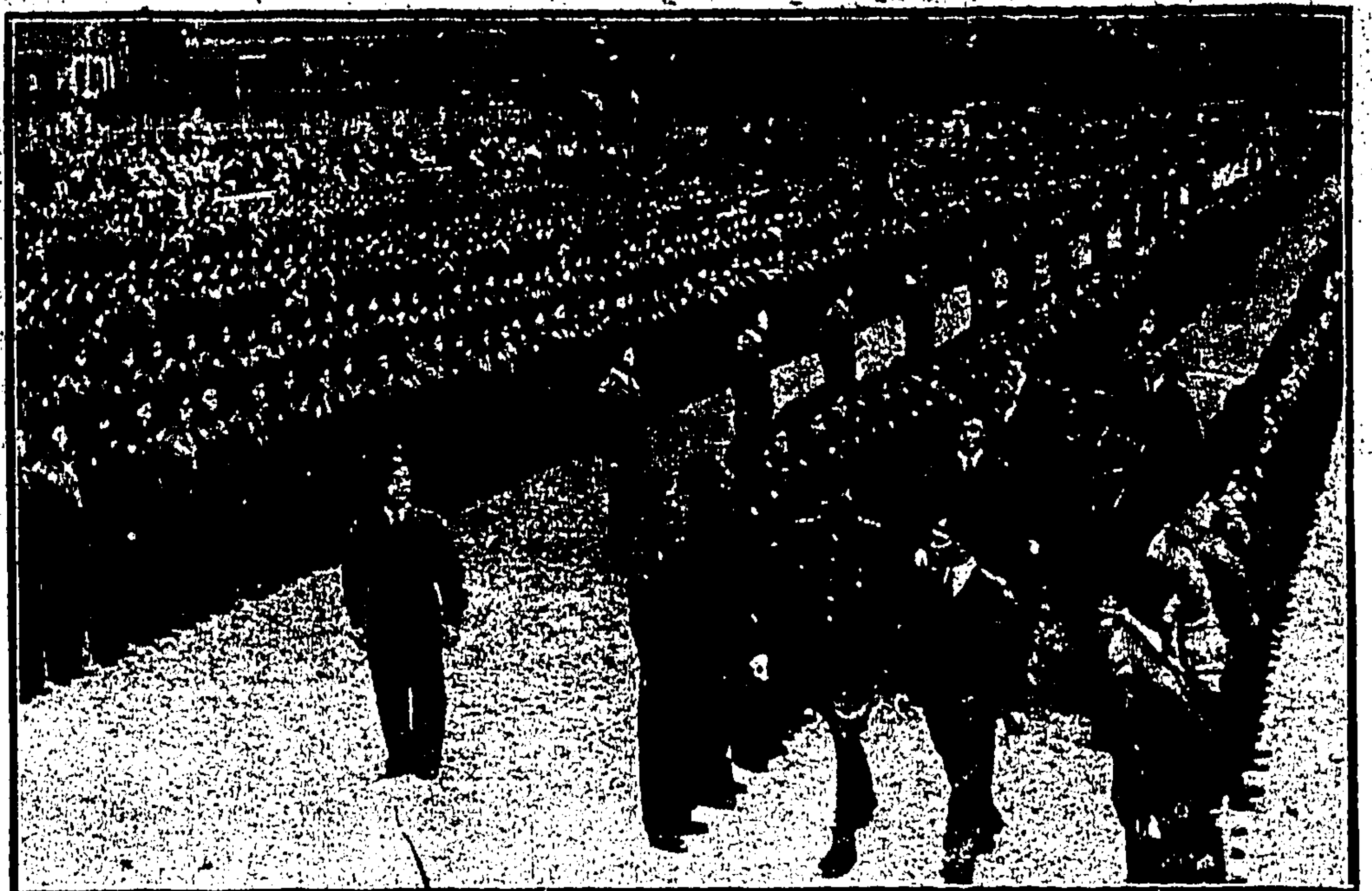
Cutex Polish Foundation is made to protect your nails and your polish—may be worn under or over your favourite shade of polish.

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A.R.P. Parade



His Excellency the Acting Governor presenting a certificate to the trainer of the Chung Wah Boys' School at the physical training display.



His Excellency the Acting Governor inspecting the impressive parade of the Colony's A.R.P. personnel last Saturday.



A close-up of the Acting Governor inspecting the A.R.P. parade.



Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club, presenting the prize to the Sai Ying-poon Boys' Club.

A THRIFTY WAY to GUARD YOUR FAMILY'S TEETH

Here's good news for mothers! The best dentifrice you can buy costs less to use. And here is the reason. You use only half as much Kolynos. It lasts twice as long. A half-inch on a **dry** brush is enough.

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The small representative of Wanchai Girls' Club receiving their prize from Mr. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Boys and Girls Club on Christmas Gift Day.

THRILLING STORY OF PARACHUTE ESCAPE BY R.A.F. PILOT

A THRILLING STORY OF A PARACHUTE ESCAPE FROM A SPITFIRE WAS TOLD YESTERDAY BY A SERGEANT-PILOT WHO WAS A MEMBER OF ONE OF THE FIRST R.A.F. FLIGHTS TO HAVE SHOT DOWN 100 AIRCRAFT WHILE OPERATING FROM ONE STATION.

He said: "We had attacked a formation of Messerschmidt 109's about lunchtime one day. We peeled off down from about 22,000 feet one after another and made our attacks.

Then there was a dog fight and I was hit by a cannon shell as I was about to get on a Messerschmidt 109 about 1,000 feet below me. Immediately my Spitfire went into a steep dive.

Flames appeared all round so I threw the hood back and kicked myself out of the machine. I had been hit in the leg and fainted almost immediately.

I came to pretty soon afterwards and found I was falling fast. I was very comfortable but at 14,000 feet or so pulled the parachute rip cord.

Tunic On Fire

Then when coming down slowly I took my wireless lead, which was still attached and tied it tight round my leg to staunch the flow of blood.

Then I realised my tunic was on fire so I beat out the flames with my hands. I singed my moustache too.

A Spitfire from another squadron came round me and gave protection from machine-gunning by enemy fighters but no enemy appeared.

I thought once coming down I was going to hit telegraph wires or a high tension cable but missed them both and landed in an orchard.

The aircraft crashed about three miles from my home in Kent and when my parents came to see me in hospital the following day they told me they had watched me coming down although at the time not knowing who it was." — British Wireless.

WAVING OF HAIR PROHIBITED

The Loyang Economy Savings Promotion Association has passed a resolution prohibiting women from waving their hair and wearing high-heeled shoes, which are considered luxurious habits.

Shoe shops are told to sell their stocks of high-heeled shoes within a month after which sale will be strictly banned. — Central News.

5,000 FRENCH QUIT SYRIA

About 5,000 officers and men of the French Army in Syria are now on their way home to France. The garrisons in Syria and Lebanon have been reduced to approximately 60,000.

BLASTING OFFENCE

At Kowloon Court this morning, Chung Yuk-ming, of No. 110, Kiling Street, was fined \$40 for failing to take safety precautions when blasting on a hillside off Prince Edward Road on December 10.

THEFT FROM SAFE

Cheung Kam-chan, of No. 85, Wing Lok Street, has reported that \$448 was stolen from his safe between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. on Christmas Day.

MYSTERY DEATH AT STANLEY

BEING SEEN IN APPARENTLY GOOD HEALTH FOUR HOURS PREVIOUSLY BY FELLOW-VILLAGERS, A 30-YEAR-OLD COOLIE WAS FOUND DEAD ON THE HILLSIDE NEAR THE STANLEY BARRACK AT 8 A.M. TO-DAY.

An examination of the body disclosed no bruises and only a few slight scratches about the face.

The body has been removed to the mortuary and police investigations are proceeding.

FREE OF INTEREST LOANS

During the week ended December 24 the number of loans free of interest received by the Treasury was 103, totalling £153,587. Total amount received is £25,097,366 and the number of loans 11,184. — British Wireless.

Ice Cubes!

Ever been rushed for ice cubes at a party or your bathing shed? Buy a packet of Dairy Farm Ice Cubes and you'll find your problems solved. Crystal clear, and generously sized, they won't spoil your drinks or give them an "off taste."

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PUBLIC AUCTION

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 30th day of Dec., 1940, at 3 p.m., at the Offices of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor of one Lot of Crown Land at Castle Peak, in the Colony of Hong Kong for a term of 75 years, commencing from 1st July, 1898, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 24 years less the last three days thereof.

Intending bidders are advised that immediately after the disposal of the lot the Purchaser (if not the applicant) will be required to deposit with an authorised officer who will be present at the sale, the sum of two hundred dollars, (\$200) in cash. This sum will be refunded on payment of the Purchase price.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality	Boundary Measurements				Contents in sq. ft.	Annual Rental	Upset Price
			N.	S.	E.	W.			
1	Ping Shan Inland Lot No. 6.	Castle Peak.	ft.	ft.	ft.	ft.	As per sale plan	About 18,000	\$53 \$900

M.V. "HOEGH TRANSPORTER"

On instructions from the Underwriters, Tenders are invited for the Single Screw Motor Vessel "HOEGH TRANSPORTER" as she lies submerged in her damaged condition in Singapore Roads.

The vessel is of the Shelter Deck type designed for a carrying capacity of 9,000 tons and fitted with Diesel Machinery.

A large part of the cargo has been removed from the vessel.

Tenders should be forwarded to the undersigned not later than 31st December 1940, who will supply any further information available.

The highest, or any, tender may not necessarily be accepted.

RITCHIE & BISSET,
UNION BUILDING,
SINGAPORE.

BRIDGE NOTES

Bridge Swindles — No. 19

By The Four Aces

West knew that South was a fine player and that he would make his contract by an end play unless he could be sidetracked:

South, Dealer

Neither side vulnerable

♠ 4 3	♥ 7 6 3	♦ 6 3 2	♣ A J 9 8
♠ Q J 10	♥ 9 6	♦ 7 5 2	♣ 7 5 2
♠ 9 6	♥ Q 9	♦ 8 7	♣ 7 6 2
♠ K J 9 5	♥ 4 3	♦ A K 8	♣ A 10 4
♠ 4 3	♥ A 10 4	♦ A Q 10 4	♣ K 10 5

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West opened the Queen of spades, South winning with the King. Declarer cashed the club King and led the club ten, finessing to East's Queen. South won the spade return with the spade Ace and led a club towards dummy.

West could place all the high cards from the bidding and correctly assumed that South's plan was to cash the clubs and the two high hearts and then lead a spade to force a diamond lead up to the Ace-Queen. The only danger, for South, was that West might be able to blank the King of diamonds and win four instead of three tricks at the end. And West's only chance of heading off South was to make South think the diamond King had been blanked.

On the third round of clubs, therefore, West discarded the five of diamonds; and on dummy's last club West blandly dropped the Jack of diamonds. Now South looked worried. Had West blanked his King of diamonds? If so, correct play was to play the diamond Ace rather than throw West in with a spade. Or was West just pretending? If so, the end-play would work after all.

As it happened, South guessed wrong, by playing for the King of diamonds to drop. So West's

swindle sidetracked a successful play in favour of an unsuccessful one.

Yesterday you were Merwin D. Maier's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you held:

♠ 9 3 2
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 8 5
♣ 7 4 3

The bidding:

Maier	Jacoby	You	Schenken
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
1♥	Pass	Pass	(?)

ANSWER: Bid one spade. The suit is not a good one, but there is a faint chance that partner has good spade support. Also, this is the cheapest bid you can make—an important consideration since your hand is so weak.

Score 100% for one spade, 50% for one no-trump; 30% for two clubs.

Question No. 599

To-day you are Howard Schenken's partner and, with neither side vulnerable you hold:

♠ K J 9
♥ J 5
♦ A Q 6 5 3
♣ Q 4 8

The bidding:

Schenken	Maier	You	Jacoby
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
1♥	Pass	Pass	(?)

What do you bid? (Answer

Ti-morrow.)

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)



The man's friend thinks her beau has lost his sense of honesty when he announces he thinks he'll rustle a couple of theatre tickets.

OFF THE RECORD

By ED REED



"I see you're doing your Christmas Snooping early!"

Here's Luck

EWO BEER

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In the

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DINNER DANCE

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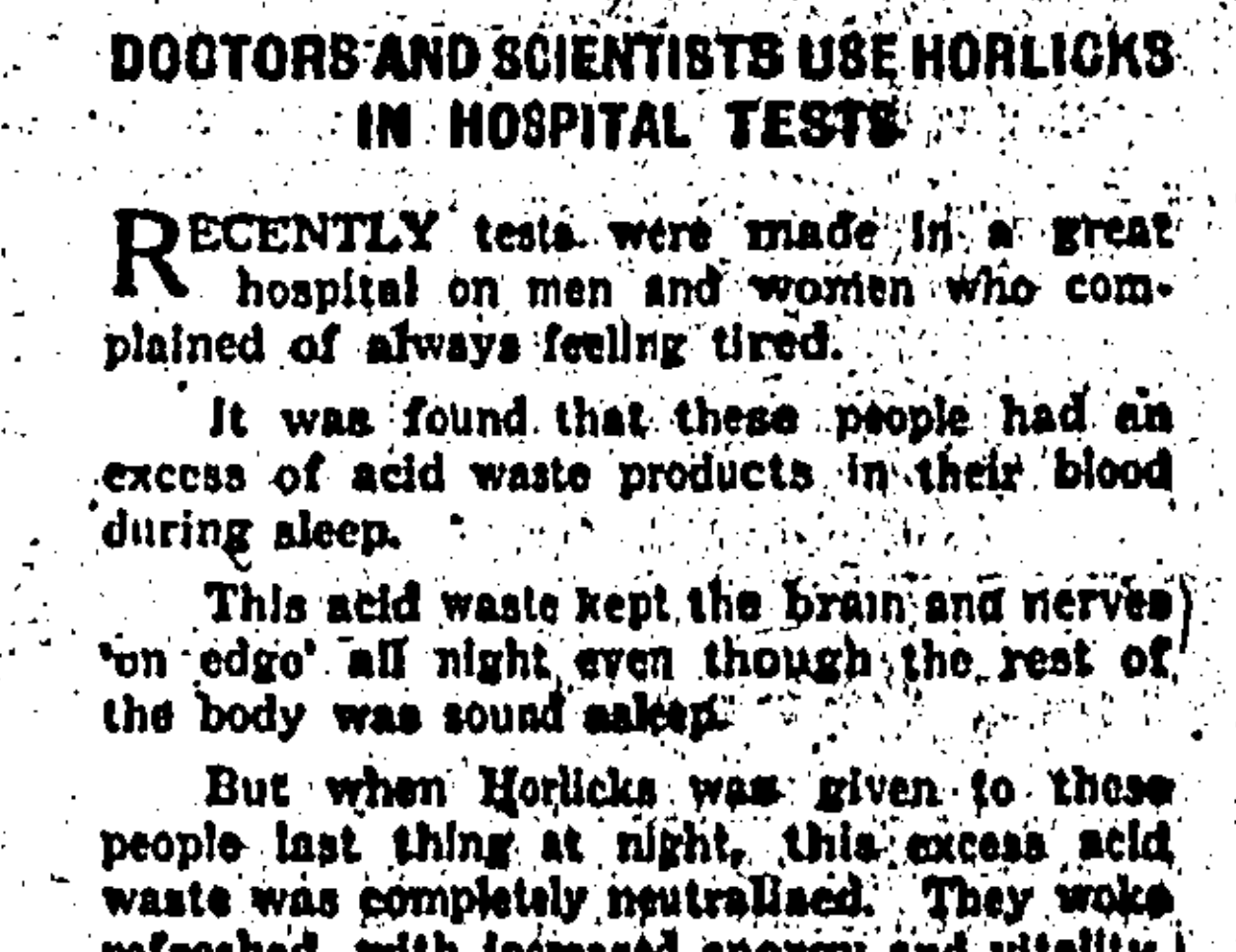
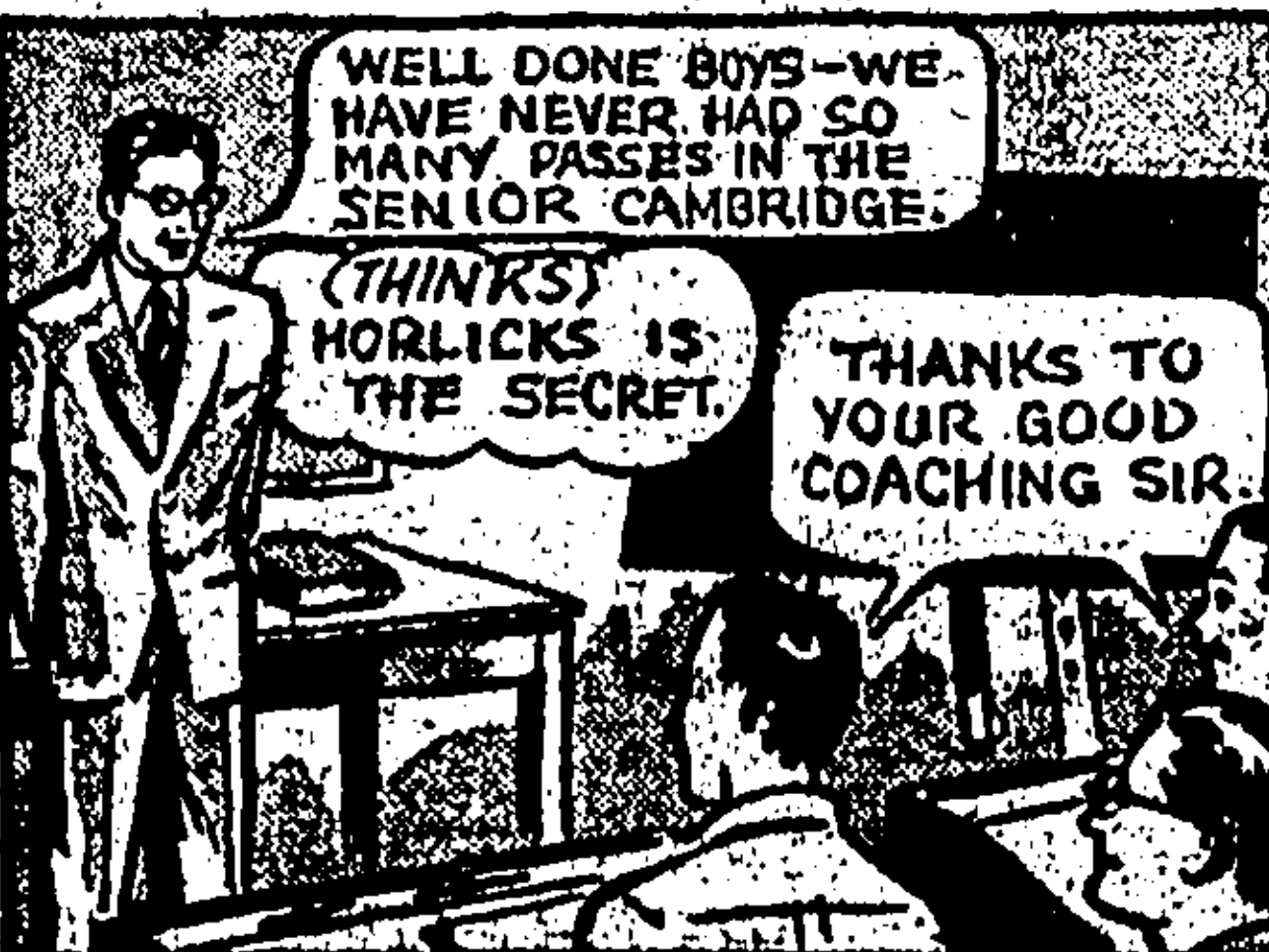
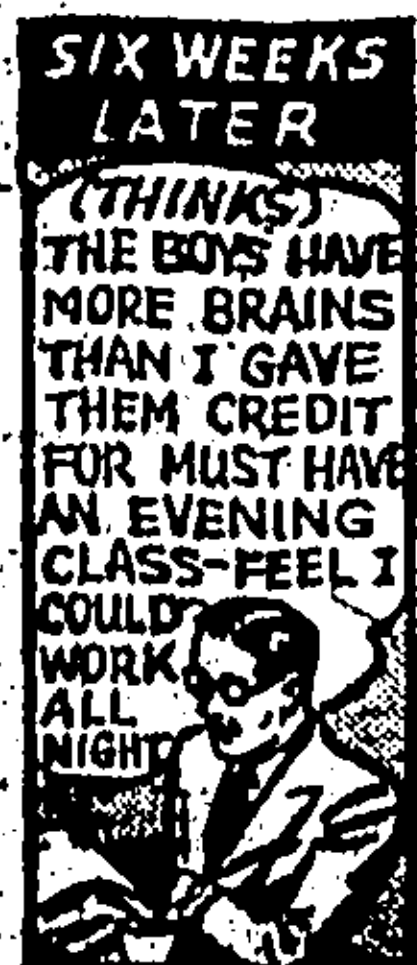
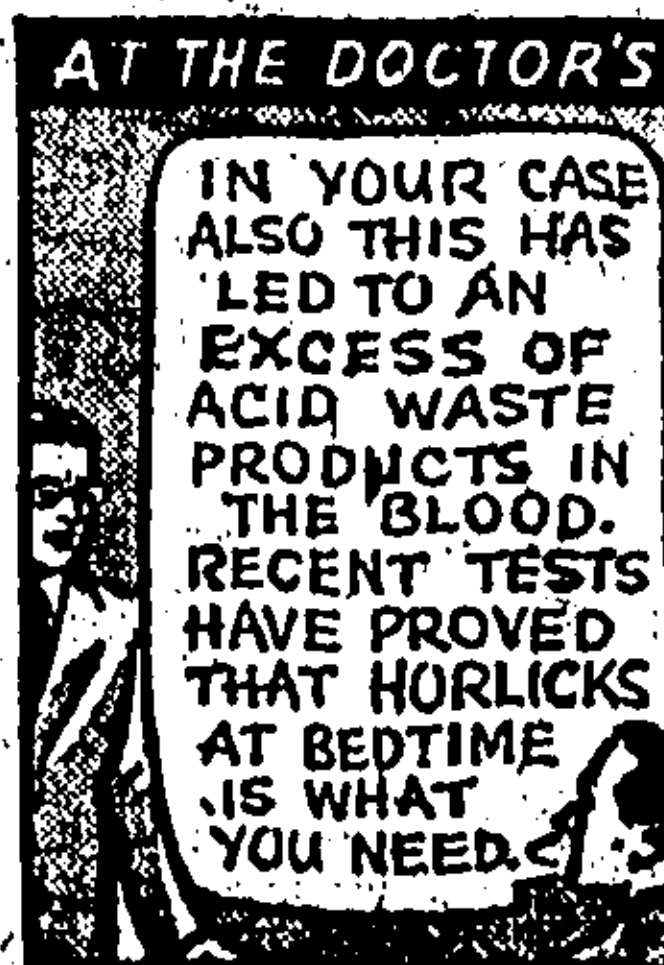
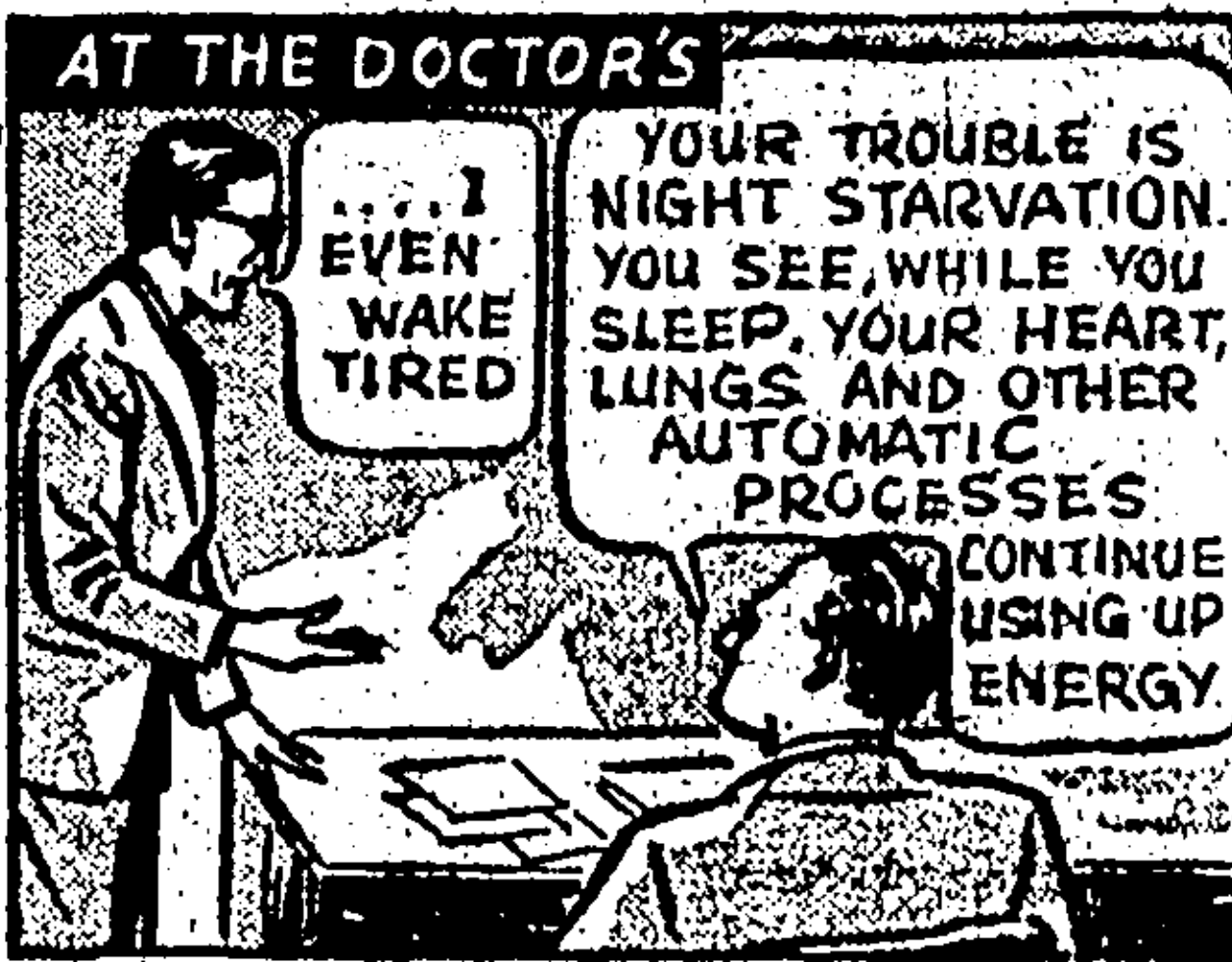
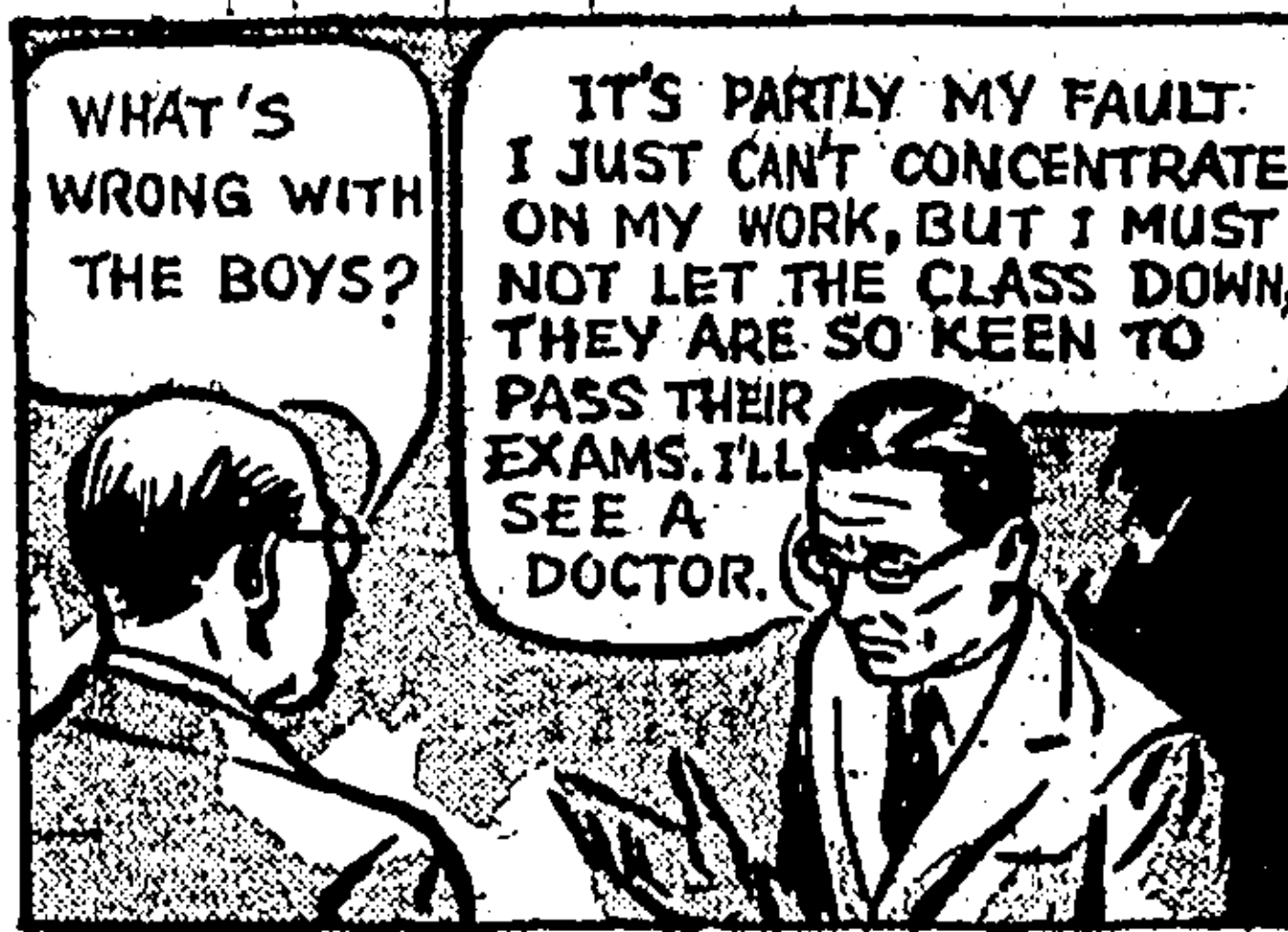
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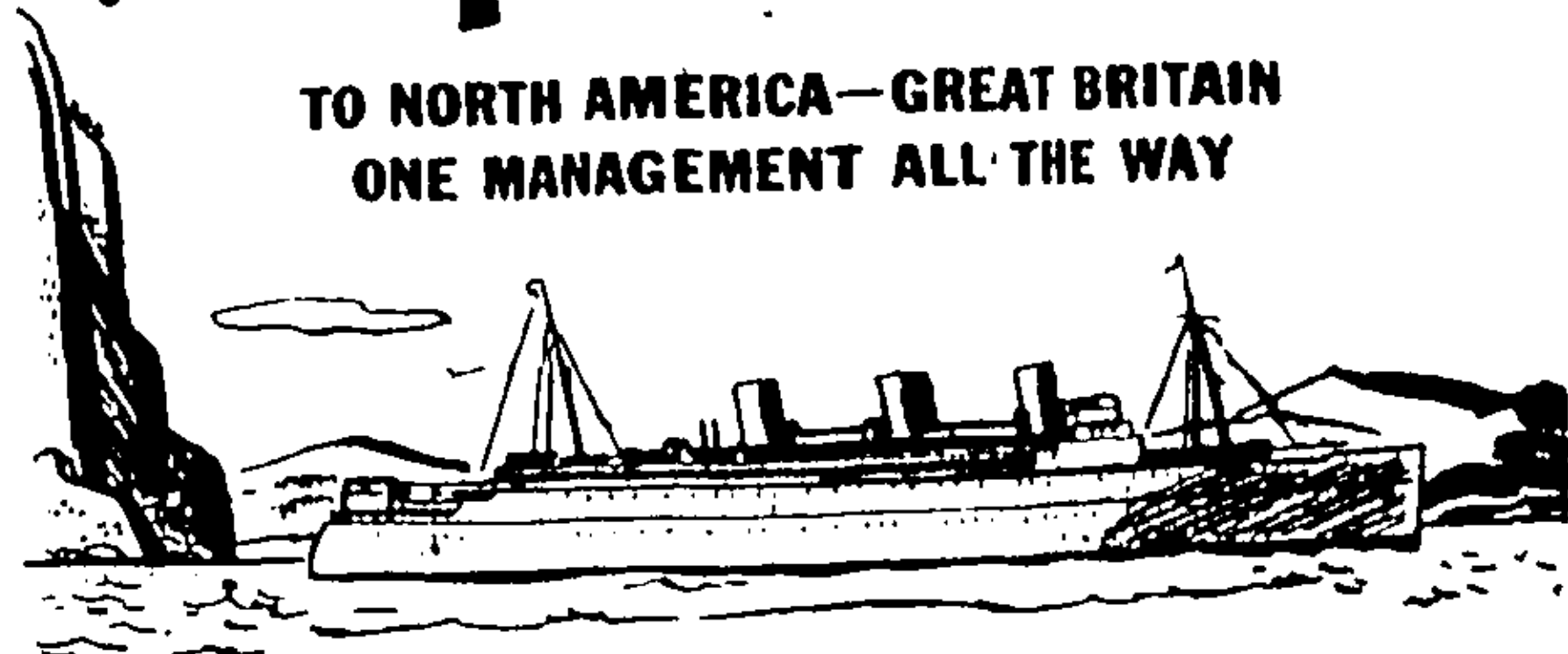
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MAILS

The Parcel Post Service to Canton has been resumed.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

FRIDAY
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 17th December.
London and Straits

SATURDAY

Swatow

SUNDAY

Canton

Sandakan

MONDAY

Calcutta, Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore.

TUESDAY

Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 24th December

FOR DATE & TIME

OUTWARD MAILS

FRIDAY
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways" K.P.O. & G.P.O.

*Reg. 4.00 p.m.
Ord. 4.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and "United-Kingdom" via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)

K.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.

Parcels 4.00 p.m.
Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A. and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."

K.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 5.30 p.m.

G.P.O.

Reg. 5.00 p.m.
Ord. 7.00 p.m.

SATURDAY

Straits, Rangoon, and Calcutta

Parcels 5.00 p.m.
Letters 7.00 p.m.

SUNDAY

Canton

* Superscribed Correspondence Only.

RADIO

12.15 p.m.—Short Service of Intercession.
12.28 p.m.—Mozart—Concerto in D Major ("Coronation").
1.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal and Weather Report.
1.03 p.m.—Dance Music by Carroll Gibbons and Orchestras.
1.30 p.m.—Reuter & Rugby Press. Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 p.m.—Variety.
2.15 p.m.—Close down.
2.45 p.m.—Indian Programme.
3.30 p.m.—Closing Local Stock Quotations.
3.32 p.m.—Dance Music.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News.
7.15 p.m.—London Relay—Questions of the Hour.
7.30 p.m.—Latest Variety.
8.00 p.m.—Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 p.m.—Band Music.
8.15 p.m.—London Relay—"Under the Crooked Cross". A Feature Programme.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay—The News & News Commentary.
9.30 p.m.—London Relay—Talk: "Books and People".
9.45 p.m.—A Russian Programme.
10.09 p.m.—Ravel—Sonata for Piano.
10.20 p.m.—Cesar Franck—Symphony in D Minor.
11.00 p.m.—Close down.

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Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.
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SEATTLE & VANCOUVER (Starts from Kobe)

Helan Maru Saturday, 25th Jan.

SOUTH AMERICA (WEST COAST) via Hilo &

San Francisco.

*Akagi Maru (starts from Kobe) Wednesday, 15th Jan.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila

Atuta Maru Monday, 30th Dec.

HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS

*Hakodate Maru Friday, 10th Jan.

(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo

Kasima Maru Saturday, 28th Dec.

*Matue Maru Tuesday, 31st Dec.

RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore

*"Matumoto Maru" Tuesday, 31st Dec.

*Genoa Maru Sunday, 12th Jan.

KOBE & YOKOHAMA

Kamakura Maru Tuesday, 14th Jan.

Kamo Maru Wednesday, 22nd Jan.

Yawata Maru Tuesday, 28th Jan.

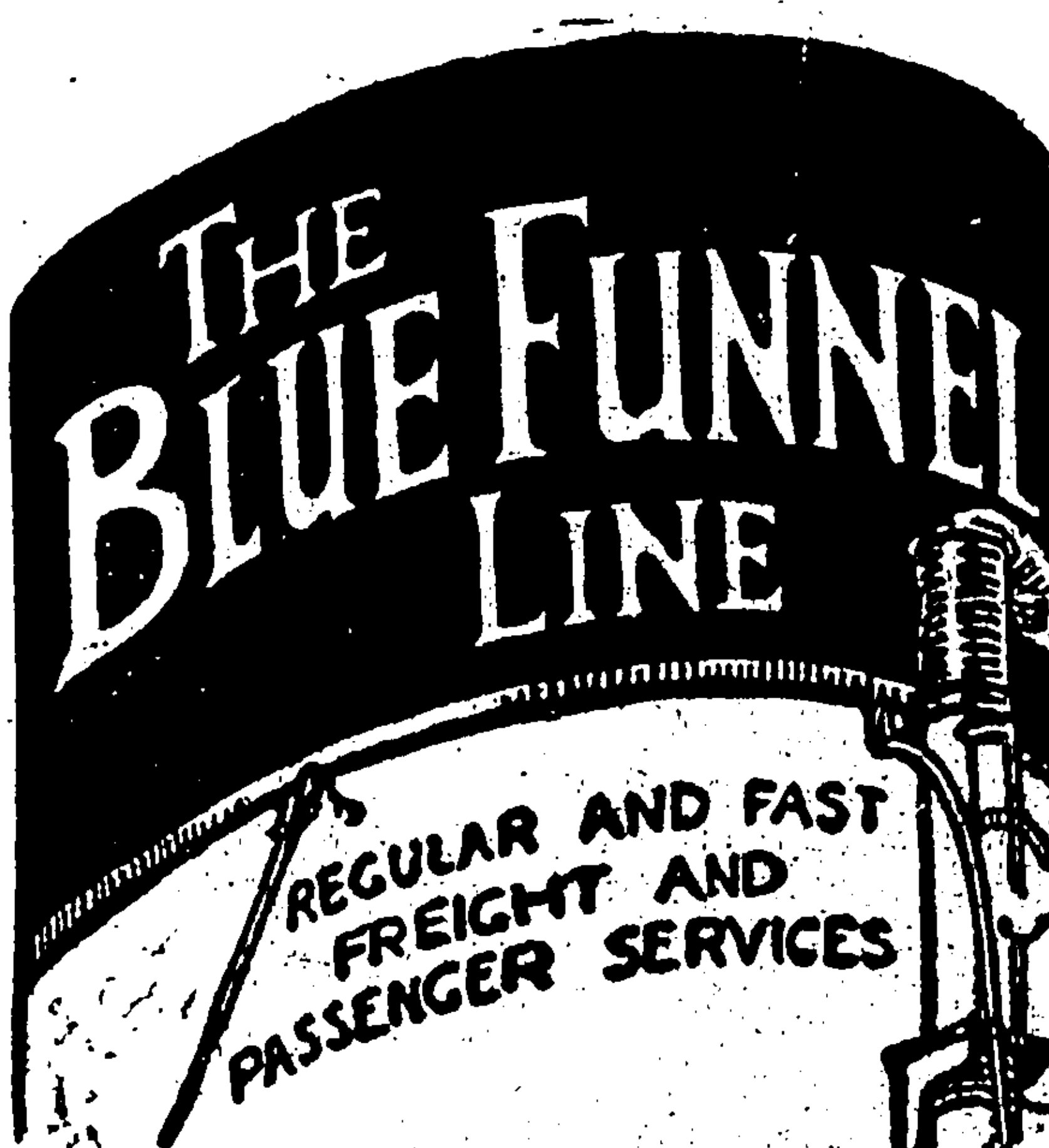
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Richardson Scores Century Before Lunch; Fine Knock Spate Of Runs In Game Between Club, Wanderers

HULSE'S FINE FORM

The annual Married v Singles cricket match, played at Craigengower Cricket Club yesterday, was featured by the brilliant all-round form of A. J. Hulse, who took 4 for 39, including the hat-trick, for the bachelors and then went on to score 74 not out and thus play a big part in the defeat of the Benedicts by nine wickets.

The Married men had first lease of the wicket but their batting was inconsistent and they were all out for 131. Lock was top-scorer with 27, scored out of 55, and Youngsaye, Joe Leonard and A. R. H. Esmail also made useful scores.

Hulse conceded 28 runs in six overs without taking a wicket but he then had a spell of

O. M. R. W.

2 0 3 4

and finished with 4 for 39.

With the last two balls of his seventh over he took the wickets of Leonard and Youngsaye and with the first ball of his next he clean-bowled Shroff to register the hat-trick.

Billimoria bowled very steadily to take 5 for 46 in 12.1 overs. The Bachelors were given a start by Archie Hung and Norman Broadbridge, who added 38 for the first wicket, and Hulse, coming in at the fall of Hung's wicket, then proceeded to hit the bowling all over the field, scoring no fewer than 74 out of his unbroken second wicket partnership with Broadbridge of 94. He hit 14 fours.

MARRIED

T. Lock, b Souza	27
W. K. Way, b Billimoria	5
E. Zimmern, b Billimoria	0
J. L. Youngsaye, c Ladd, b Hulse	20
J. W. Leonard, c S. Leonard, b Hulse	17
C. W. Lam, c S. Leonard, b Billimoria	8
N. M. Shroff, b Hulse	0
G. H. A. Morris, st. Hung, b Hulse	3
A. R. H. Esmail, c and b Billimoria	22
U. H. Esmail, b Billimoria	1
A. N. Other, not out	4
Extras (B3, LB20, NB1)	24

Total 131

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
Hulse	11	1	39
Billimoria	13.1	2	46
Souza	4	0	11
Solima	2	0	11

SINGLES

A. Hung, c Lock, b Lam	23
N. Broadbridge, not out	22
A. J. Hulse, not out	74
Extras (B9, LB4)	13

Total (for 1 wkt.) 132

G. Souza, P. J. Billimoria, S. Leonard, E. H. Esmail, S. R. Solima, L. Choa, G. S. Ladd and T. Edgar did not bat.	
---	--

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
U. H. Esmail	3	0	24
Lam	6	0	19
Way	6	1	35
Esmail	3	0	17
Youngsaye	2	0	18
Leonard	1	0	6

BOMBER FUND SOFTBALL

About \$200 for the Bomber Fund was collected yesterday at Kowloon Football Club where the Graybeards subdued the Juveniles 17 to 14 in a softball tilt. No one knows what the score was in the nightcap in which the lesss battled with the Kowloon Kops, but it was generally agreed that a big time was had.

Many Partnerships Of Over 100

By "Adrem"

RUNS WERE CHEAP AT HONG KONG CRICKET CLUB YESTERDAY, NO FEWER THAN 561 BEING SCORED IN THE COURSE OF THE DAY FOR THE LOSS OF ONLY 11 WICKETS, AND CLUB DRAWING WITH WANDERERS.

Honours of the match go to J. E. Richardson, who, opening for Club, scored no fewer than 137 before lunch and was finally dismissed with his total at 144. In partnership with Ride he added 105 for the second wicket and again with Perry he added 119 for the third wicket. His best scoring strokes were a six, a five and 24 fours and he was at the wickets for about 110 minutes for one of the most brilliant innings seen on the Club ground for some time.

Ride had six fours and Perry a six and seven fours.

At 2.45, with the total at 308 for four and with Owen Hughes and Bosenquet batting confidently, Club declared.

Wanderers Bat

Faced with such a formidable task Wanderers set about the Club attack with confidence although John Pearce was dismissed early on by Owen Hughes. Alec Pearce and Grose scored freely, hitting anything overpitched with great power and hooking the shorter stuff with gusto. When they had added 137 for the second wicket, Grose, who latterly had been having a dip at everything, was caught by Kilbee off Perry for a useful, although not classical, innings of 72. In the course of this knock Grose must have cow-shotted on more occasions than he has done since his arrival here but the means was justified by the end and Wanderers, on his dismissal, had more than a sporting chance of winning. On Pearce being bowled, however, something of a rot set in until the arrival of Coombes, who played a carefree innings of 72, most of the runs coming from straight and on-driving and powerful hooking.

Grose hit 12 fours, Pearce six and Coombes a six and 13 fours. Lloyd bowled very steadily and was always difficult to get away, while Owen Hughes, although coming in for a fair amount of punishment, always looked like getting wickets.

HONG KONG C.C.

J. E. Richardson, c and b T. A. Pearce	144
T. G. C. Knight, b Head	11
L. T. Ride, lb.w., b Coombes	44
A. E. Perry, c J. L. C. Pearce, b Dewar	48
H. Owen Hughes, not out	31
D. I. Bosenquet, not out	20
Extras (B2, LB1, W5, NB2)	10

Total (for 5 wkts. dec.) 308

R. H. Griffiths, D. McLellan, L. D. Kilbee, N. D. Lloyd and G. J. F. Carey did not bat.	
---	--

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
Head	5	0	25
Finnie	4	1	19
Dewar	9	2	54
J. L. C. Pearce	2	0	18
T. A. Pearce	10	0	97
Coombes	6	0	59
Swyer	3	0	26

WANDERERS

Major Grose, c Kilbee, b Perry	72
J. L. C. Pearce, b Owen Hughes	4
T. A. Pearce, Knight	52
Major Swyer, c McLellan, b Owen Hughes	5
A. H. Coombes, not out	77
Capt. Freeman, b Owen Hughes	0
Capt. Head, b Owen Hughes	12
Capt. Dewar, b McLellan	1
Capt. Peal, not out	2
Extras (B25, LB1, W2)	28

Total (for 7 wkts.) 253

Surg-Comdr. Finnie and Capt. Blair did not bat.	
---	--

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
Knight	8	0	42
Owen Hughes	10	2	63
Lloyd	8	1	57
McLellan	10	0	43
Perry	2	0	14

MADAR, PARSONS AND ANDERSON BAT WELL

Featured by fine innings by Madar, Parsons and Anderson, the intra-club match at K.C.C. between Over 30's and Under 30's resulted in a win for the seniors by 24 runs.

OVER 30'S

E. F. Fincher, lb.w., b Burch	7
T. A. Madar, c F. R. Zimmern, b Anderson	36
S. A. Gray, b Burch	0
R. Baldwin, c Anderson, b Burch	7
E. C. Fincher, c and b Anderson	6
A. N. Other, c Burch, b F. R. Zimmern	14
J. W. Bertram, run out	0
E. Curtis, c Anderson, b Broadbridge	7
W. Parsons, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmern	59
H. Brokenshire, not out	6
S. O. Else, c Baxter, b F. R. Zimmern	0
Extras (B27, WB1)	23
Total	190

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
F. Zimmern	8.5	0	39
Burch	7	1	25
Baxter	3	0	29
Anderson	5	2	13
Broadbridge	2	0	14
Giffen	3	0	19
A. Zimmern	2	0	18
Rapley	2	1	5

UNDER 30'S

D. Hung, c and b Baldwin	4
R. T. Broadbridge, b Baldwin	25
F. R. Zimmern, c E. C. Fincher, b Curtis	10
K. M. Baxter, Curtis	6
L. R. Burch, run out	5
F. Crabb, b Curtis	0
A. Zimmern, b Baldwin	37
D. J. N. Anderson, not out	64
W. L. Rapley, b E. F. Fincher	6
G. W. Giffen, lb.w., b E. F. Fincher	0
A. N. Other, b Curtis	0
Extras (B9)	9
Total	166

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
Curtis	8.6	0	68
Baldwin	9	0	47
E. F. Fincher	5	1	26
Parsons	4	0	16

ALL-ROUND FORM OF W. STOKER

GOOD ALL-ROUND FORM BY W. STOKER PLAYED A BIG PART IN THE VICTORY OF THE EUROPEAN STAFF OF HONG KONG ELECTRIC COMPANY OVER THE LOCAL STAFF IN THEIR ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH AT SOOKUNPOO YESTERDAY.

Stoker hit six fours in an innings of 45 and he was given good support by Barron, who made 24. Hassan was in fine form with the ball for the Locals and took 4 for 15.

With Stoker, Gahagan and Way bowling steadily, Locals were only able to total 72 leaving the European Staff winners by 59 runs.

EUROPEAN STAFF

C. E. Gahagan, c Haroon, b Hassan	0
J. McKenna, c Butt, b Razack	12
A. F. Paul, c Butt, b Razack	6
W. Stoker, c U. A. Ramjahn, b K. M. Ramjahn	45
A. G. Gardner, c Hassan, b Bux	9
J. R. Way, b Bux	9
J. F. Barron, b A. R. Minu	24
R. F. Gregory, c Marques, b Hassan	11
W. E. Macfarlane, not out	12
H. S. Jones, c Butt, b Hassan	0
J. K. Sloan, b Hassan	0
Extras	12
Total	131

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
M. B. Hassan	5.7	1	15
M. I. Razack	2	0	16
S. A. R. Bux	4	0	12
G. M. Butt	4	0	32
M. A. Adem	1	0	27
K. M. Ramjahn	4	0	27
A. R. Minu	2	0	11

LOCAL STAFF

K. M. Ramjahn, c Gardner, b Stoker	6
M. L. Razack, c Stoker, b Gahagan	11
U. A. Ramjahn, c Gahagan, b Stoker	8
S. A. R. Bux, c Gregory, b Gahagan	5
C. V. Marques, b Gahagan, b Way	11
M. B. Hassan, c Macfarlane, b Way	4
A. K. Minu, std. Paul, b McKenna	21
A. R. Minu, c Gregory, b Stoker	1
G. M. Butt, c Barron, b Way	1
M. Adem, not out	0
I. Haroon, lb.w., b Gardner	6
Extras	6
Total	72

Bowling Analysis

O.	M.	R.	W.
Stoker	5	0	24
Gahagan	4	0	20
Way	2	0	3
Gardner	2	0	13
McKenna	0.6	0	6

VOLUNTEER CRICKET XI

The following have been selected to play for Hong Kong Volunteer Defence Corps in a friendly whole-day cricket match against Royal Scots at Sookunpoo on Sunday, starting at 11 o'clock—
I. T. Ride, K. J. Attwell, K. M. Baxter, N. D. Booker, D. Hung, D. McLellan, N. A. E. Mackay, A. E. Perry, D. O. Parsons, W. Stoker and A. Zimmern.

KWANTI CASH SWEEPS

Following are the results of cash sweeps at the Kwanti Race Meeting held yesterday:—

RACE 1		
No. 112	\$1,194.26	
" 834	341.21	
" 724	170.61	
Tickets Nos. 262, 374, 308, 1015		gets \$50 each.

RACE 2		
No. 1161	\$1,326.42	
" 483	378.97	
" 267	189.49	
Tickets Nos. 646, 1262, 23, 782, 993, 1133		get \$50 each.

RACE 3		
No. 861	\$1,655.81	
" 1114	473.09	
" 4	236.54	
Tickets Nos. 1377, 1021, get \$50 each.		

RACE 5		
No. 780	\$ 889.00	
" 971	254.00	
" 415	127.00	
Tickets Nos. 801, 1691, 1123, 1515, 562, 1052, 205, 452, 794, 198		gets \$25 each.

RACE 6		
No. 1583	\$1,803.64	
" 702	523.04	
" 1830	261.52	
Tickets Nos. 603, 1516, 1867, 261, 1767		get \$50 each.

Amber II	22179
Circe	53140
Colorado Star (3)	19620
Dick Turpin	40755
Forehand Drive	51746
Heinz	8519
Lovely Cat	3447
Quick Despatch (1)	25697
Rising Star (2)	51430
Ruby Star	10261
Rooftly	12421
Schmetterling	50187
Sea Urchin	17685
Surprise Again	34397
Tarzan	5787
1st Prize	\$26,008.42
2nd Prize	7,430.97
3rd Prize	3,715.49
Unplaced ponies (whether starters or not):	\$344.02 each.

K.C.C. CRICKET SELECTION

Kowloon teams to play the Indians to-morrow are:

First (home).—E. C. Fincher, N. D. Lloyd, D. J. Anderson, D. Hung, W. L. Rapley, R. T. Broadbridge, E. F. Fincher, A. Zimmern, F. R. Zimmern, F. J. Lay, T. A. Madar, Scorer, T. W. Carr, Umpire, J. P. Robinson.
Seconds (away).—S. A. Gray, E. Curtis, K. M. Baxter, H. Brokenshire, L. R. Burch, J. R. Luke, F. Goodwin, G. A. Goodban, R. J. Fenton, George Giffen, B. D. Lay, J. W. Bertram (12).



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PORTUGAL GIVE ENGLAND A SCARE IN CHARITY MATCH.

Marques Plays Brilliant Game In Goal For Losers

Freshwater And Hendy Shine For England

By "Referee"

LOSING THE SERVICES of A. V. Gosano, ten minutes from the start, Portugal battled heroically against England in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition at Kowloon Football Club yesterday to lose by the odd goal in five after sharing two goals at the interval.

More was expected of England. He tackled quickly and without hesitation with the result that Campos had little chance against him. They were the heavier team and generally better all round but the Portuguese forwards, particularly Gomes and Santos, were far nippier and gave the English defence a trying time. Forced to play with only four forwards they nevertheless came near scoring on several occasions.

Wilkinson and Coomer were absentees from the English team and Britt and Saw came into the team. Britt filled Wilkinson's position ably but Coomer's absence in the forward line was felt badly. Fox was played on the right wing to permit Saw to be in the inside position, but he was hopelessly out of position, and though Fox sent over good centres at times he was not the force he might have been in the centre-forward berth.

A Better Move

A better move would have been to play LePage on the wing with Fox as a centre-forward or inside right. LePage has played on the wing before and he would have balanced the forward line better.

England were disappointing at times. Their forwards were slow in front of goal and their passes were often badly placed. Only the height and weight of the defenders prevented Portugal from snatching a win late in the game.

Bright used his head to great advantage in the pivotal position and though he found Gomes and Santos troublesome at times generally had them well marked. Britt played soundly until his injury which forced him to leave the field for a time. Pope, on his right, was sound in his marking and clearances.

Freshwater played well at left-back and proved the greatest obstacle to the Portuguese forwards.

Roughley, his partner, also played well and though less conspicuous than Freshwater did his share of the work well.

Hendy Troublesome

In the forward line Hendy was the most troublesome. He scored all the goals for England. He was always in the thick of things and spared nothing in his way. He led his line well and though B. Gosano kept a close watch on him at all times he was always dangerous.

LePage and Saw tried hard to make openings for their leader, but the former was handicapped by Fox on the right wing, while it was only occasionally that Bickford, on the left, was able to get a free run.

Outstanding players for Portugal were V. Marques in goal, B. Gosano, when at centre-half, and Gomes and Santos in the attack. Had Portugal been fitter they would have easily turned the tables on England in spite of the absence of A. V. Gosano.

Marques, in goal, played a great game and contributed in no small measure to Portugal's narrow defeat. It must have been years since he played in goal but throughout the game he was safe in his handling and in the closing stages merited he applause given his brilliant saves.

B. Gosano played soundly in the pivotal position and though he did not find time to feed his forwards as he would have liked, proved a great stumbling block to the English attackers and was often responsible for the break down of many a dangerous move. Neither of the backs were re-



The Scot's soccer team which caused one of the biggest local sports sensations in years when they beat China in the "Sunday Herald" Cup Charity Competition on Christmas Day.

liable under pressure. Alves had a much easier time than Remédios and while he cleared well his clearances were not well placed.

Maxwell was safe at right half and often came out with the ball in his tussles with Bickford and Saw.

Live wires of the Portuguese attack were Gomes and Santos. They were badly handicapped without a leader and both worked hard. Santos was the most troublesome and in spite of his lack of weight did well against the English defence. His positional play brought Campos into the picture with neat runs down the wing and centres which unfortunately were not turned into account.

Alves was sadly in need of practice while Gomes worked hard, often dropping far behind to assist an overworked defence.

Portugal did most of the attacking in the opening period of the game, A. V. Gosano playing well in the centre-half, berth while the forward line was seen in some fine movements.

A. V. Gosano was injured in a collision with Hendy and had to leave the field but in spite of

Football Highlights

BY "REFeree"

ECLIPSING all other performances in the soccer world for some years past was Scotland's sensational victory over China in the semi-final of the "Sunday Herald" International Charity Cup Competition on Christmas Day at Boundary Street. To turn a deficit of 4 goals to 1 at half time to a 6-5 victory is in itself no mean feat but Scotland, with a team composed for the most part of Royal Scots players, whose battalion team has done nothing of note, to eliminate a Combined Chinese team who for many years past have swept everything before them, is a display that will long be remembered in the annals of local football.

Several years ago, Scotland, with what was considered a weak team, put up a remarkable fight against China on the Club ground only to lose by the narrowest margin. On that occasion the team was managed by J. McKelvie, who also managed this year's Scottish team. How far McKelvie's advice to the players contributed to China's defeat only the players can fully appreciate.

Fraser, with his superb display at back, dispelled any doubts in the minds of Association and Army officials that he is one of the best backs in the Colony. It was mentioned before that he does not do anything spectacular

his absence Portugal were able to hold out for some time. A. V. Gosano returned and played on the right wing, his brother taking up his position, but he was a passenger and in the second half gave up.

England took the lead through Hendy but before the interval Santos scored his side on level terms.

In the second half Hendy again gave his side the lead but Campos equalised when he beat Robinson with a weak shot. The winning goal did not come till late in the game through Hendy.

England: — Robinson, Roughley, Freshwater, Pope, Bright, Britt, Fox, LePage, Hendy, Saw and Bickford. Portugal: — V. Marques, C. F. Remédios, D. Alves, Maxwell, A. V. Gosano, J. Pereira, H. Campos, J. Gomes, B. T. Gosano, C. Santos and A. Alves.

in his position but on Christmas day, he was the outstanding defender on the field with his quick tackling, good covering and powerful clearances. His partner Wavensmith also rose to great heights and these two formed a bulwark that did not crumble in the second half against the continued and persistent attacks of the Chinese forwards.

Bankier's good all round display is worthy of some recognition and it would be a horrible misfortune if the Army selectors were not present at this game. He definitely came into the limelight in the second half with some good saves.

There is no doubt that Fraser, captain of the team, knew his own players. He brought in Munro, generally a forward and one of the reserves, into the team as a wing-half in place of Hutchinson and this player did well.

This Royal Scot half-back line with Falconer in the centre-half berth and Clarke at left-half would do credit to any Army side. All tackled quickly and rarely gave the Chinese forwards a chance in the second half.

Two players, Howlett and Ferrier, and two players only made all the difference to a forward-line that had failed miserably in all their League matches.

Hossack the leader did more than was expected of him. He worried the Chinese every time, kept his wingers well supplied with passes and never once took it for granted that a ball would be cleared or go over the line; he kept going for the leather.

Howlett and Ferrier added much needed punch to the attack. Howlett used his weight judiciously, while Ferrier was seen in some neat movements.

The wingers, after a shaky start, improved beyond recognition, Marshall working well with Ferrier and Garrie and Howlett leading Ng Kee-chong a merry dance.

The venture of using the Police ground for representative games was a great success. The control of the ground was excellent and the accommodation as great as any in the Colony. There was only one fly in the ointment, and that was the lack of lavatory accommodation within the enclosures. Some grounds in Hong Kong are without these facilities but the public are aware of this fact and make provision for this. A remedy in this respect would make Boundary Street an excellent venue for big games.

None will grudge Scotland's victory except the POOR. Charity will now suffer to the extent of approximately \$2,500, as, without China in the final, the Chinese public will not be there in large numbers.



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TO-MORROW'S FOUR RUGBY COMBINATIONS

By "SCRUM-HALF"

POLICE HAD SOME SERIOUS CASUALTIES DURING THEIR RUGBY MATCH AGAINST R.A.M.C. LAST MONDAY — WALL SUSTAINED A STRAINED SHOULDER MUSCLE, DEMPSEY BROKE HIS NOSE AND LESLIE AND VERIGA BOTH BROKE AN ARM — AS A RESULT OF WHICH THEIR TEAM FOR TO-MORROW'S QUADRANGULAR TOURNAMENT GAME AGAINST CLUB HAS BEEN DRASTICALLY CHANGED.

The team is: Cullinan (Capt.), Reynolds, Howlett, Fay and Dingsdale; Jackson and Wall; Rose, Lewis, Gough, Jenner, Oakley, Wright-Nooth, Hogarth and Davitt.

They have one piece of cheerful news, however. G. S. Wilson, former captain, hopes to be in action within a fortnight, while E. C. Luscombe is expected to undergo the necessary cartilage operation early in the new year.

Club Strengthened

Club, on the other hand, have been strengthened by the return of A. F. Walkden, last season's captain, who will be in the back row instead of the front row. Charter has moved to stand-off in place of Aitkenhead and Carruthers is back in place of Morgan.

The team is: Thompson; Bosanquet, Carruthers, Aitkenhead and Stewart; Charter and Thomson; Macrae, Burford, Heasman; Gairdner, Needham; Taylor (Capt.), Walkden and Kennedy. Reserves: Godfrey and Thomas.

Navy Fly-Half Problem

Navy have Taylor back in the second row of the pack, in place of Stockham, and their team is: Morahan, McGill, Honeywell, Paul and Bowden; A. N. Other and Rutherford; Munfield, Watson (Capt.), Winter, King, Taylor; Longmuir, Beattie and Poole.

Army are unchanged from the team which lost to Navy in the first game, and will take the field as follows: Picton, Richards, Hook (Capt.), Douglass and Macdonald; Coombes and Wedderburn; Sutherland, Ford, Bompas, Millar, Heath; Duke, Pinkerton and Gilliam. Reserves: Foley, Barclay and Berry.

Times Revised

To-morrow's Rugby programme at the Valley is as follows:

Club v Police
(2.45 p.m.)

Navy v Army
(4.00 p.m.)

The above times have been changed in order that the deciding game of the Tournament is played at 4.00 p.m.

GOLF STARTING TIMES

Following are Royal Hong Kong Golf Club starting times for Fanning:—

SUNDAY

Old Course

9.16 a.m. Final Club Championship.
9.20 .. A. J. Amerfelt, K. S. Morrison
9.24 .. A. K. Mackenzie, R. Young
9.28 .. A. Mack, D. I. Bosanquet
9.32 .. W. N. A. Smalley, D. S. Edward.
9.36 .. A. McKellar, W. W. C. Shewan.
9.40 .. T. Low, H. N. Williamson.
9.44 .. J. A. Parrish, A. W. Bourne.
9.48 .. W. E. Hines, L. Jackson.
9.52 .. D. H. Blake, F. A. Redmond.
9.56 .. F. D. Hunter, G. C. Worral.
10.00 .. W. Stoker, J. R. Way.
10.04 .. I. H. Geare, D. Humphreys.
10.08 .. J. Linaker, J. B. Harrison.
10.12 .. M. G. Carruthers, J. S. Dunnett.
10.16 .. G. M. Park, S. L. Lloyd.
10.40 .. Col. Shackleton, Capt. Barclay.
10.44 .. Major Temple, Major Morgan.

New Course

9.24 a.m. S. Tomlinson, A. V. Greaves.
9.32 .. P. Morrison, R. R. Davies.
9.40 .. Miss Cuthbertson, M. A. Annett.
9.44 .. Miss Blackburn, J. G. Jensen.
10.28 .. J. K. Bousfield, R. D. Gillespie.
11.28 .. Col. Smith, Capt. Reidy.

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T. K. L.'s Confusion Bay (Mr. S. L. Sung up) being led in after winning the Hong Kong Autumn Champions by a head from Burford in record-breaking time. It won this same event last year. (Kahn).

COTTAGE CLUB HUNT

The Cottage Club paper-hunt on Christmas Day for the President's Cup was won by Robin Blake, who beat Van Rynberg, who came second, by a very close margin.

Up to the last moment the hunt was completely in the hands of

Miss Kiki de Chaffoy, who had bad luck in being bumped off the course in the last 50 yards and her pony did not finish the race between the flags.

There were 25 starters for the hunt, which was run over seven miles of good grass country.

Yesterday, the Club President and Committee were "At Home" to members and their friends at their annual Christmas Tiffin.

GERMANS ARE STEALING FRENCH THOROUGHBREDS

THE GERMANS HAVE been sorting out the best of the thoroughbred breeding stock in France, and sending many of the horses to Germany, writes J. H. Park.

Germans would be the first to appreciate the value of French bloodstock, because French horses have regularly won the chief German race prizes.

They have made a clean sweep of the Grand Prize of the Reich and the Brown Band at Munich. Nearly all the finest studs in the country were in Normandy, which is part of the German occupied territory.

Most of the horses in training were taken to the Bordeaux district when the invasion began, but it was not possible to secure travelling facilities for all the mares, foals, yearlings and stallions in the breeding establishments.

A few of the more valuable stallions were evacuated but the majority of the mares and young stock had to be left behind. The stud employees were sworn to secrecy. They promised not to divulge the identity of the various animals. No doubt the Germans have discovered some means of finding out what they want to know.

The value of the breeding stock in Normandy had to be reckoned in millions of pounds in pre-war days. It is to be feared all that has been lost to the former owners.

K.B.G.C. CLOSING DAY

Kowloon Bowloon Green Club will hold their annual Lawn Bowls Closing Day on Saturday when members will be "At Home" to their guests. Lawn Bowls games will commence at 2.30 p.m. These will be followed by the presentation of prizes won during the year.

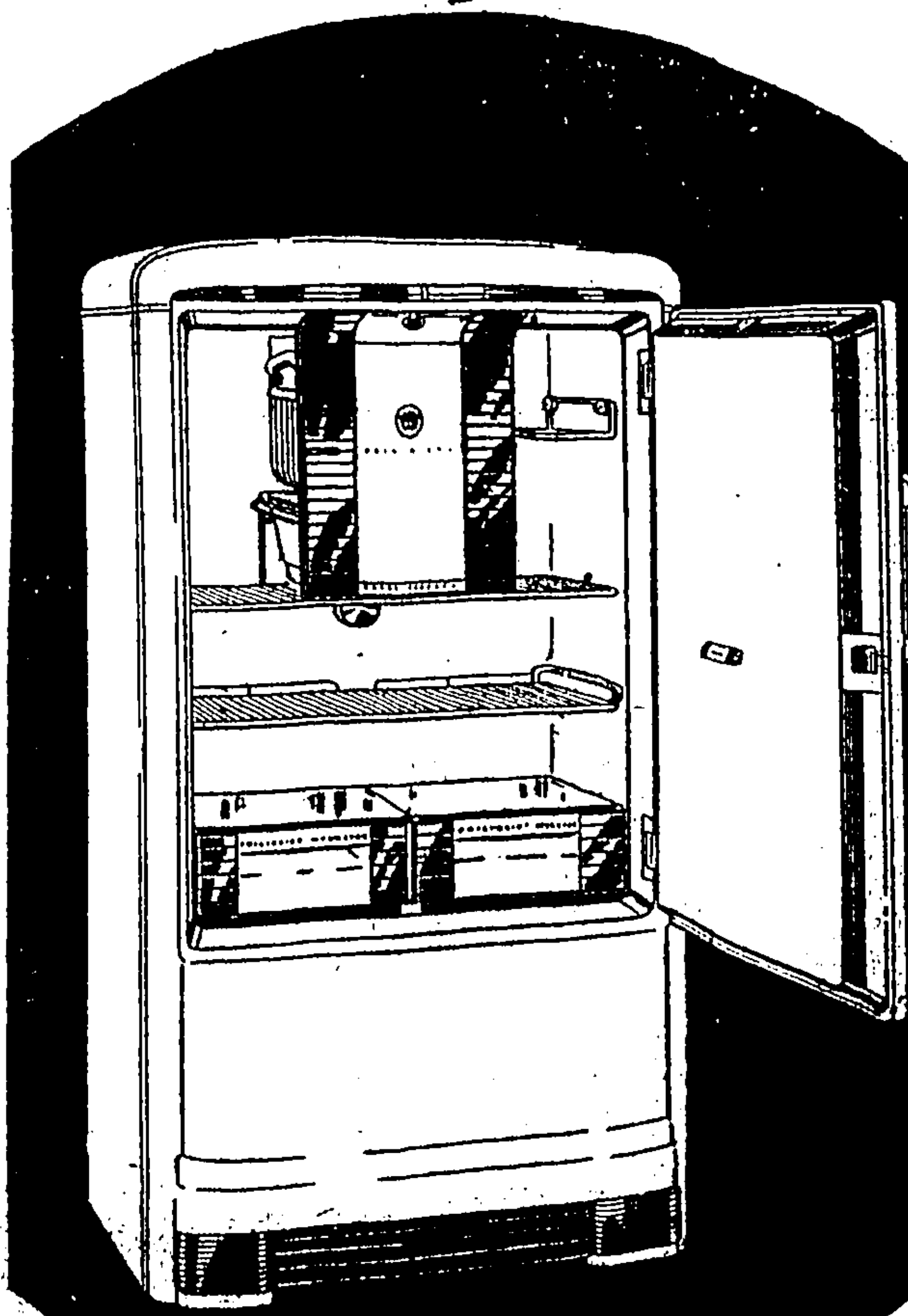
HOME RUGBY

Three Rugby Union matches were played at Home yesterday, the results being:—

Cardiff	16	A Welsh XV	0
Gloucester	26	An Army XV	3
Home Counties		Rest of Eng-	
Public Schools	14	land Public Schools	3

—Reuter.

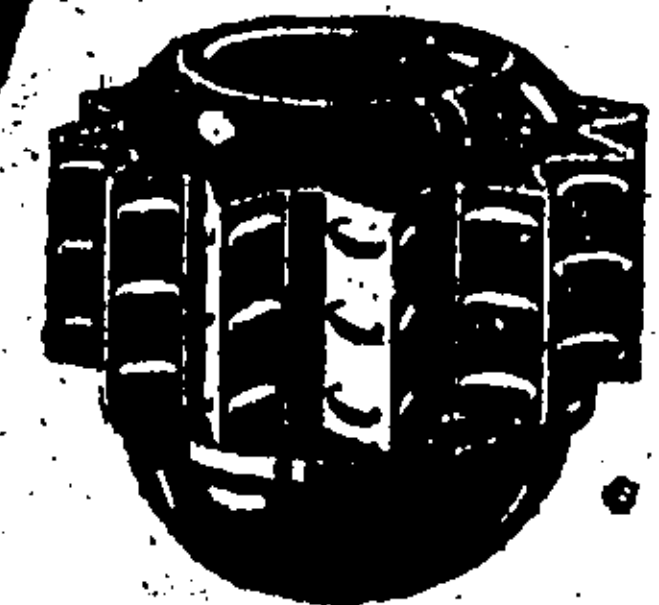
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CHRISTMAS AIR LULL

Interpreted In America As Tacit Restraint

LONDON COMMENT ON TRUCE

Poor visibility may have enforced the Christmas bombing "truce," Reuter's air correspondent is informed.

It was emphatically denied in London yesterday that the absence of British and German raids is the outcome of any official or unofficial understanding.

The following comment was made yesterday: "The weather has been bad enough over the Channel."

"Low cloud and fog have been the rule since Christmas Eve. Added to this the nights have been particularly black and no moon."

Christmas Influence

"It would be idle to suggest that Christmas has not influenced those in command of operations at all, but if the weather had been good I think we should have seen the usual activity."

There is no doubt that the personnel of both the R.A.F. and the Luftwaffe welcomed the rest, and it has been a factor of no small psychological importance that bombing crews have been able to forget their war work for a time and enjoy to the full the season of peace.—Reuter.

No German Or British 'Planes Raid

(SPECIAL TO "CHINA MAIL")

THE PRINCE OF PEACE brought peace to the British and German peoples over Christmas, and in deference to the season Germany and Britain refrained from inflicting modern war on each other.

At the apparent suggestion of Germany, both sides recognised a tacit Christmas truce and not a single German aeroplane was reported anywhere over the British Isles.

The German big guns on the continental side of the English Channel remained silent, as did British coastal batteries in the Dover area.

Germany, through neutral diplomatic quarters, intimated she would refrain from air war during Christmas if the British did.

British official quarters refused to admit that the British Government had entered into any truce agreement with the Germans.

Nevertheless no British bombers left for the usual raids over Germany and German-occupied territories on the Continent.—International News Service.

NOT IMPRESSED

THE NAZIS HAVE BEEN TRYING TO GAIN SOME SORT OF REPUTATION FOR VIRTUE OVER THEIR ABSTINENCE FROM BOMBING OVER THE XMAS HOLIDAYS. BUT MR. SOL BLOOM, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IS NOT IMPRESSED.

He said on Christmas night: "A man or a nation cannot become devoutly religious on one day of the year while committing crimes of the worst sort on the other 364."

"You cannot trust a criminal or a gangster." — Reuter.

PEACE URGE FINDS ECHO IN SPAIN

The Pope's appeal for peace has found a ready echo in Spain.

Formerly rather a fiery newspaper, the "Arriba," official organ of the State Party, yesterday carried a leader expressing great satisfaction at the virtual Christmas "truce," the fact that on Christmas Day there was no air activity over either Germany or England having already been given prominence in the Christmas newspapers.

"Arriba" expresses the hope that this may be a symptom of the possibility of peace.

The paper says: "Spain to-day as then, when General Franco on the first day of the war examined the conflict, continues unwaveringly in her position."

As a matter of fact, in the speech referred to by the newspaper, General Franco ordered Spaniards to observe the strictest neutrality but following Italy's entry into the war Spain became a non-belligerent.—Reuter.

CRIME WILL OUT?

A suspicion that the enemy may have manufactured "evidence" to suggest that R.A.F. planes bombard Swiss territory was voiced in authoritative quarters in London yesterday.

A Swiss General Staff communiqué stated that foreign planes flew over Swiss territory on Christmas Eve and authoritative quarters in London now point out it has been officially announced that no R.A.F. operations were carried out over Europe on the nights of December 24 and 25.

The same quarters observe that the Swiss communiqué confirms suspicions that earlier reports of the bombing of Swiss territory by the R.A.F. may have been based on evidence manufactured by the enemy.—Reuter.

WEATHER FORECAST:—North-east winds moderate to fresh; fine.

STOP PRESS

Wing-Commander A. H. Steele-Perkins, Director of Air Raid Precautions, stated to-day that no "black-out" is being planned to take place before the Chinese New Year.

JAPANESE ARMY MAN'S STARTLING FRANKNESS

(Continued from Page 1) regime in the struggle against Japan.

"Japan should recognise fully the strenuous efforts which the anti-Japanese camp in Chungking has been making. The Japanese army has brought about a feeling that Japan has already won a victory over China."

Two Great Camps

"Chinese to-day are divided into two great camps. One seeks to reconstruct through peace and the other through fighting to the last. Both intend to make China an independent country."

"In this respect the Japanese should not see China and the Chinese through a glass darkened by prejudice and dogmatic views."

"It is all very well for Japan to advocate establishment of a new order in East Asia or construction of a greater East Asia prosperity sphere but it would be of no good unless Japan becomes powerful enough to execute these projects by itself if need be."

"Japan has no real strength in any treaties, and agreements Japan may conclude with other countries would be nothing more than pieces of wastepaper, as has been proved by Germany."

Japan's Task

"It is no time for people in this country to indulge themselves in mean struggles in pursuit of their own interests."

It is high time for them to push forward vigorously not only for a settlement of the present China affair but for the establishment of a super-defence State by speeding up rearmament in the country and expanding productive power with all their might.—Reuter.

SIR ROBERT BROOKE-POPHAM

Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Brooke-Popham, recently appointed Commander-in-Chief of the newly created Far East Command, arrived in Hong Kong this morning on a tour of inspection.

DEATH

LANG — Suddenly on Christmas Day at Colombo, Neel Lang, Chief Engineer, Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.

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